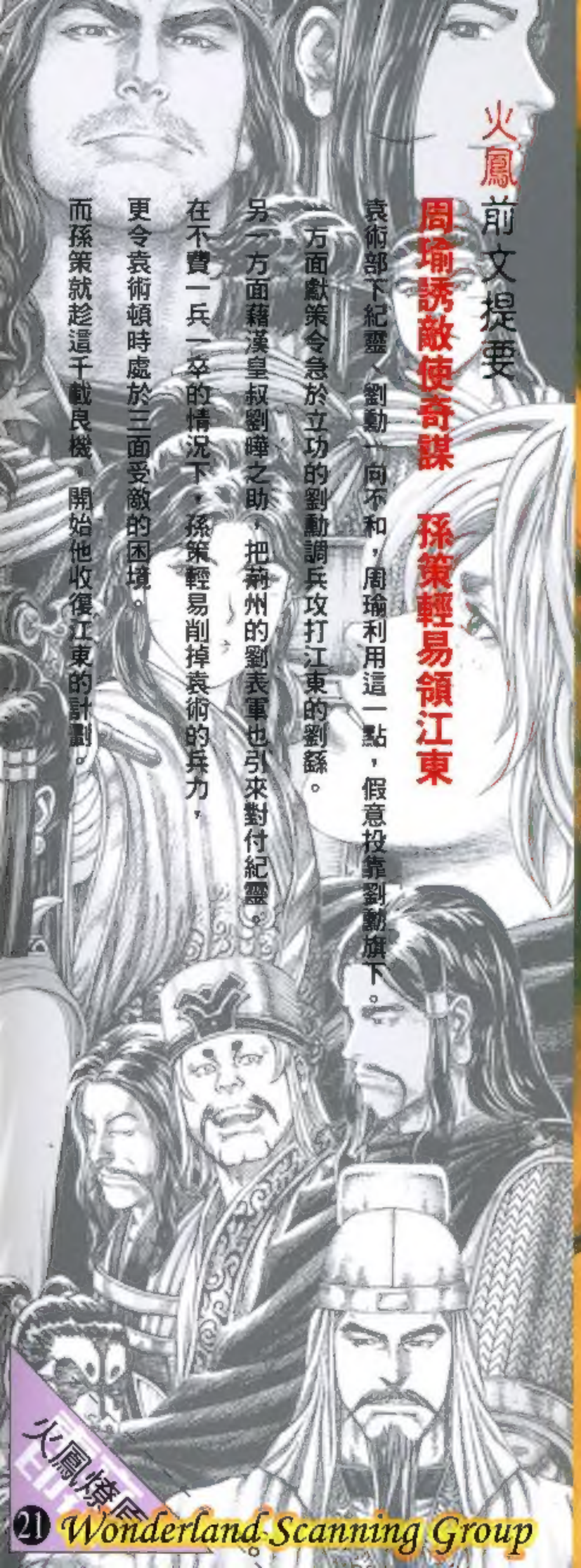


火鳳 前文提要

周瑜誘敵使奇謀　孫策輕易領江東

袁術部下紀靈、劉勳一向不和，周瑜利用這一點，假意投靠劉勳旗下。

一方面獻策令急於立功的劉勳調兵攻打江東的劉繇。

另一方面藉漢皇叔劉曄之助，把蕲州的劉表軍也引來對付紀靈。

在不費一兵一卒的情況下，孫策輕易削掉袁術的兵力，

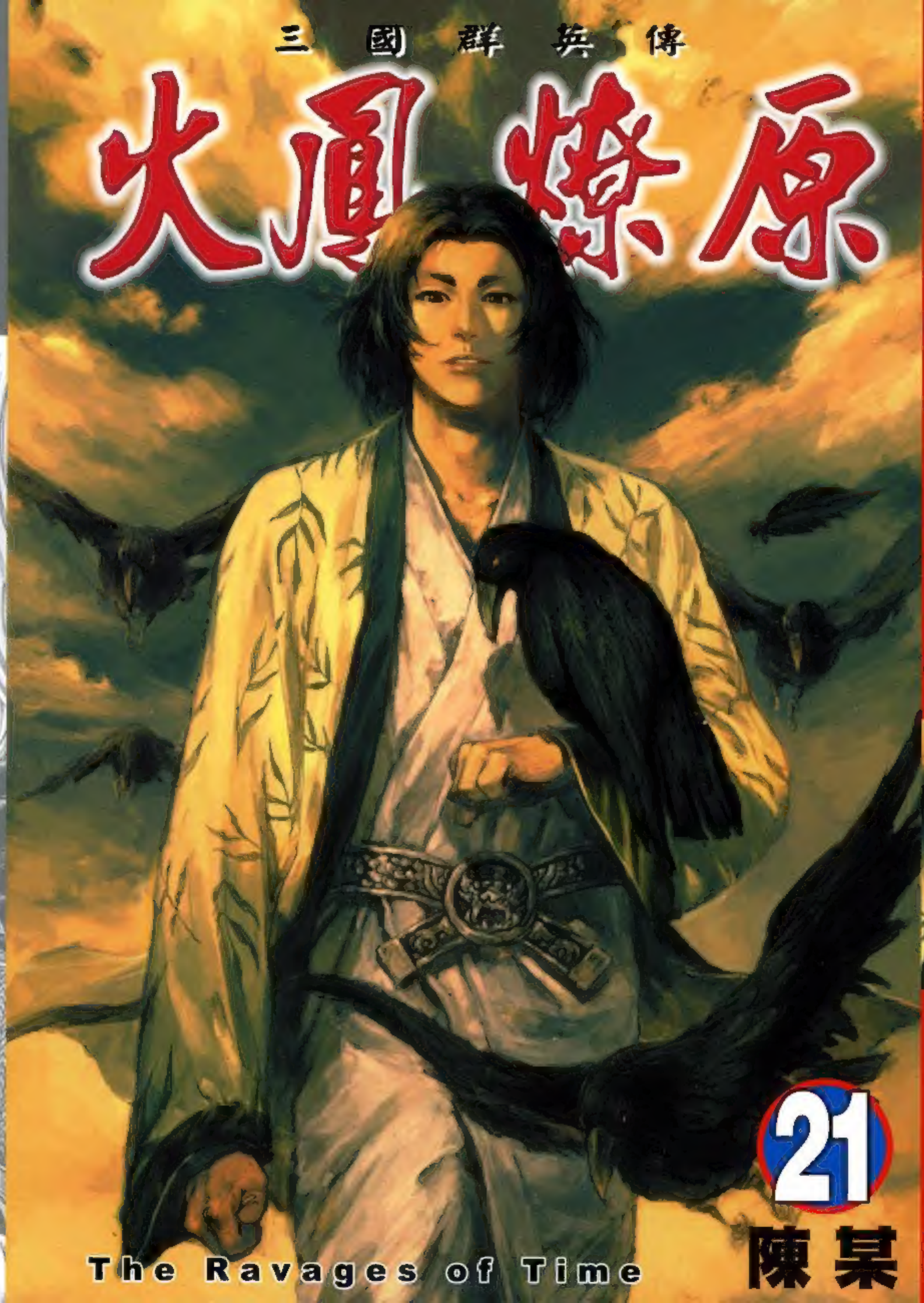
更令袁術頓時處於三面受敵的困境。

而孫策就趁這千載良機，開始他收復江東的計劃。

火鳳燎原 21 Wonderland Scanning Group

三國群英傳

火鳳燎原



21

陳某

The Ravages of Time

火鳳燎原 21 陳某

TONG LI COMICS
東立
NT-85

兵殘

存亦如歿

沒亦如存

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DANGLIKOU.
NIUZHU

ALL THESE YEARS ALONG THE RIVER, I, ZHANG YING,

HAVE NEVER LOST A SINGLE BATTLE;

TOOK COUNTLESS HEADS OF WELL-KNOWN GENERALS.

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CHAPTER 167 YOUNG WAVES

EVEN YOUR FATHER WAS WARY OF ME BACK THEN...

LIU YAO'S GENERAL

ZHANG YING

GENERAL ZHANG'S FEARSOME NAME IS WIDELY KNOWN; DANGLIKOU IS HARD TO PENETRATE - TRULY THE WORK OF A GOD OF WAR.

EXCEPT IF GENERAL ZHANG FALLS THE MORALE OF LIU YAO'S ARMY WILL DISSOLVE, AND DANYANG WOULD EASILY FALL INTO MY HANDS.

YOU'RE STILL INEXPERIENCED, MY BOY, WHY BE THIS SUICIDAL?

I'M YOUNG AND RESTLESS, BUT GENERAL ZHANG'S MIGHT IS TROUBLESOME. SO I WANT TO GET RID OF YOU ONCE AND FOR ALL.

BUT NONE OF HIS WISDOM.

GOOD, YOU ALREADY HAVE LU BU'S AUDACITY AT THIS YOUNG AGE;

I'M STRICT AND CRUEL. IF I COME DOWN I MIGHT HAVE TO HANG YOUR HEAD ON THE FENCE PIKE FOR A LONG TIME.

SUN JIAN WAS OK, BUT HIS SON IS NOT TALENTED.

I HAVE A SUBORDINATE WHO USED TO KNOW YOUR OLD MAN.

PA~

I DON'T KNOW MUCH, SIR, SO I HOPE YOU WOULD PERSONALLY COME DOWN TO TEACH ME.

LIU YAO'S GENERAL

HUI HENG

THIS MAN STILL RESENTS THE FACT THAT HE COULDN'T TAKE SUN JIAN'S HEAD BACK THEN.

SUN CLAN FOLKS, ME LIKE.

OH NO, IT'S HUI HENG.

TELL BO FU NOT TO ACT CARELESSLY. THIS IS A TOUGH OPPONENT.

YES-SIR.

HAHA, CHENG PU'S HEAD IS GOOD TOO.

COME.

CHA~

CO...

AHH~

SO FAST.

PONG~

MY BAD.

THIS HALBERD SLIPPED OUT OF MY HAND.

PLEASE RETRIEVE IT FOR ME.

KA~

LOOK OUT, YOUNG MASTER!

SHOO~

I'M RELUCTANT TO PART WITH AN ACE FIGHTER'S WEAPON.

TWO FOR YOU!!

IN RETURN, YOU CAN HAVE THIS HALBERD TOO.

殺 KILL~

殺 KILL~

殺 KILL~

SUN CE, WHY BOTHER?

I MUST PAY YOU RESPECT, NO MATTER HOW BOTHERSOME.

ドン～

ドン～

SO FAST!

I CAN'T EVEN SEE IT!

AM I GETTING OLD.

OR IS IT...

GREAT RIVER'S YOUNG WAVES (HAVE) OVERTAKEN THE OLD!

ZHANG YING, HUI HENG.

NIUZHU'S FIVE CITIES...

LOST IN TWO DAYS... AND NOW SUN CE'S NAME RINGS LOUD IN THE EASTERN REGION.

INSPECTOR OF YANGZHOU

LIU YAO

THE SCARY THING IS, THE CONQUERED PEOPLE SUPPORTS SUN CE, AND HIS FOLLOWING IS REACHING THE THOUSANDS.

HE'S HARD TO TACKLE EXTERNALLY OR INTERNALLY. WE WOULD SOON BE DEVOURED IF THIS TREND CONTINUES.

JINKOU'S DEPLOYMENT IS ALREADY KEEPING US PREOCCUPIED, AND NOW THIS FROM DOWNSTREAM...

MY LORD, I THINK LIU XUN CONTROLS JINKOU'S ARMY, AND BECAUSE OF YUAN SHU'S LOSS AT LUJIANG, HE WON'T MAKE A MOVE.

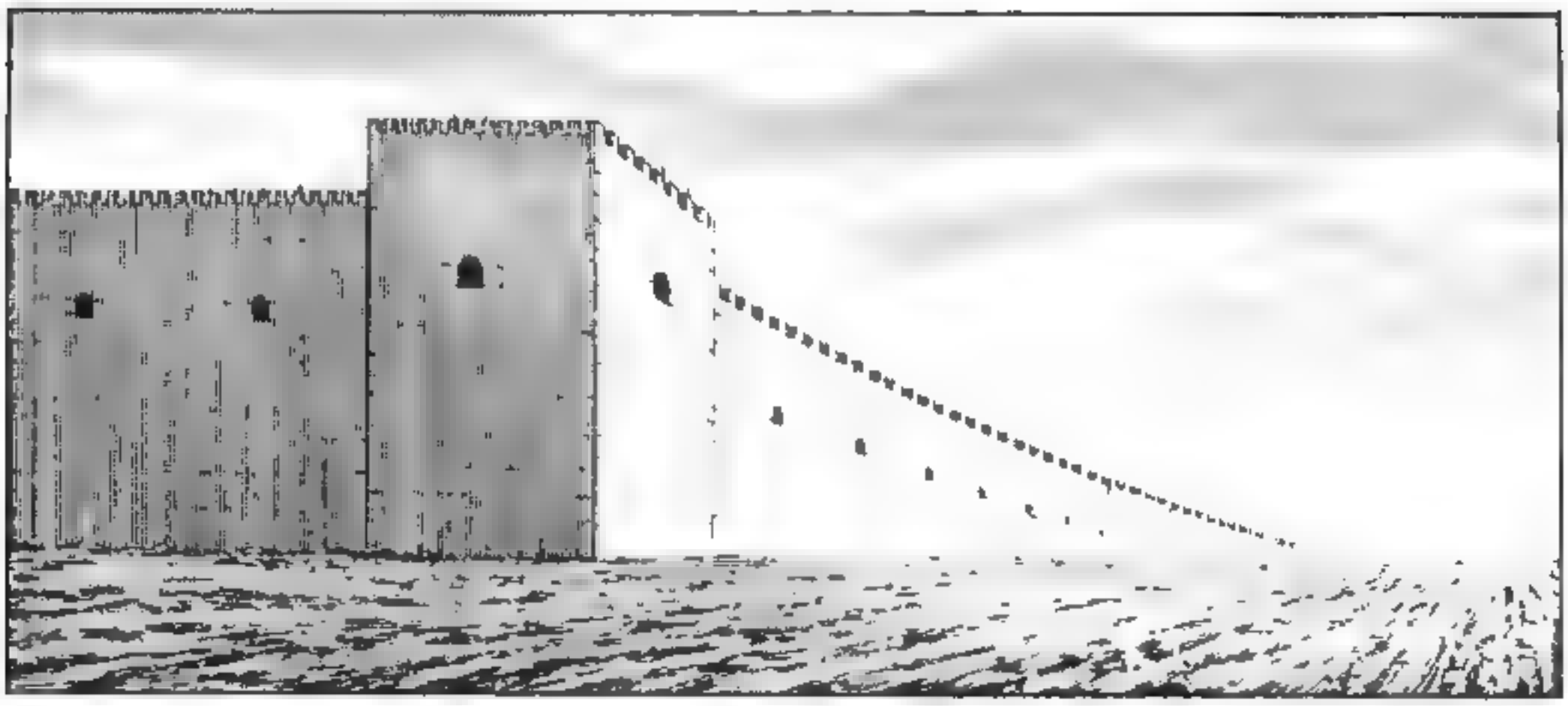
THEREFORE WE CAN TRANSFER JINKOU'S DEFENSE FORCE HERE TO FIGHT SUN CE.

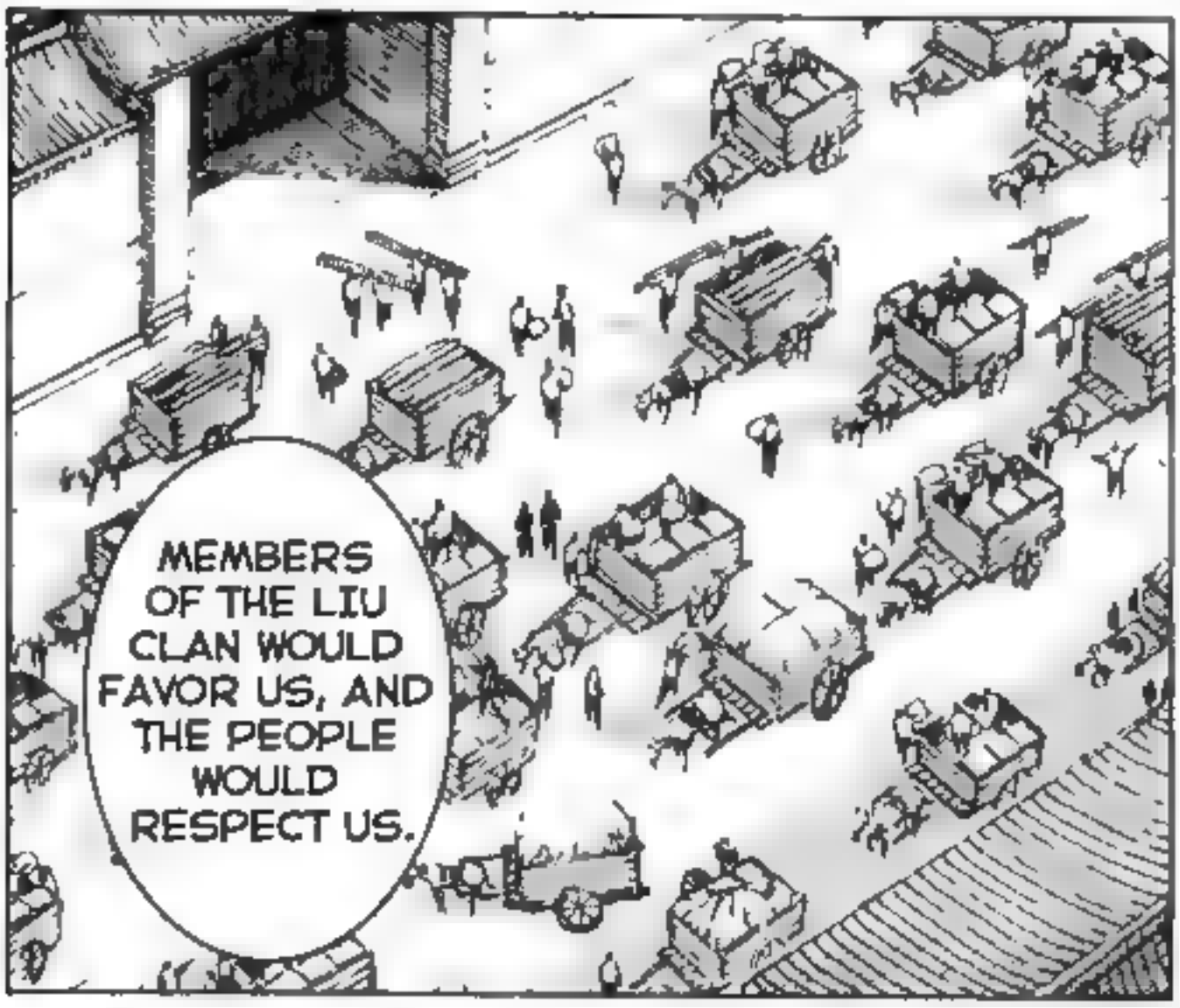
SUN CE IS ABOUT MY AGE,

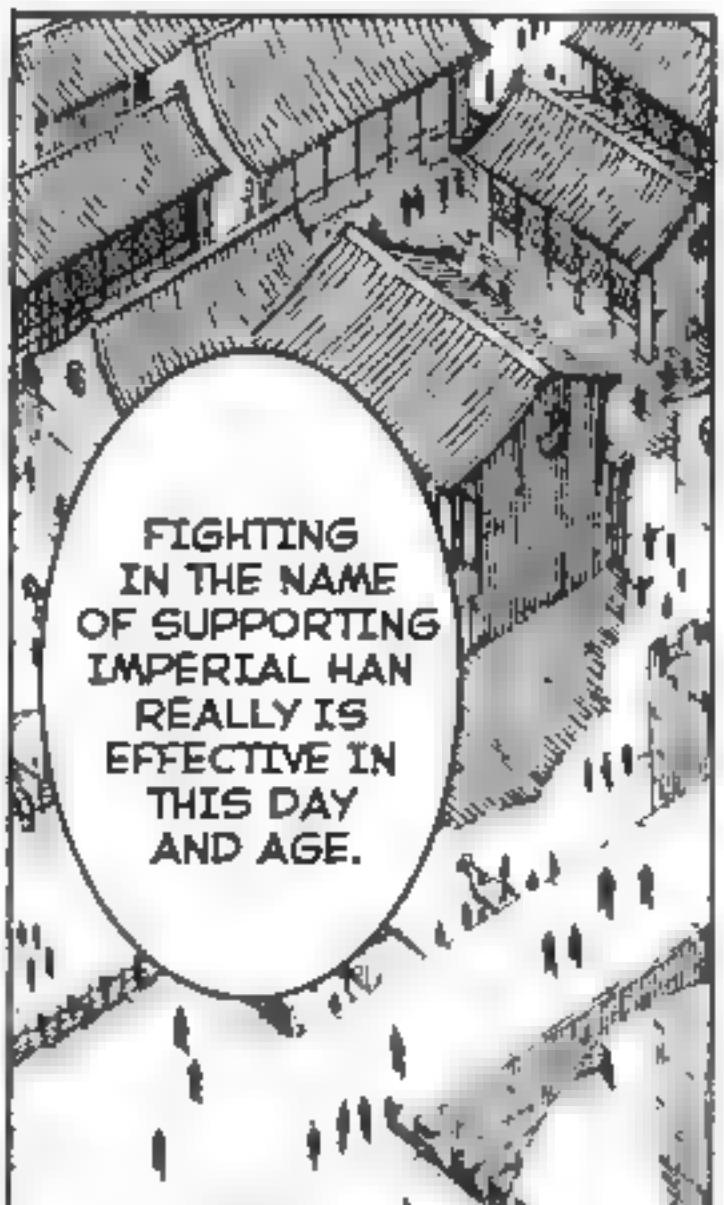
I THINK YOU'RE STILL NOT EXPERIENCED ENOUGH.

WE'RE BEING ATTACKED AT TWO FRONTS. WHO HAS AN IDEA TO DEFEAT SUN CE?

MY LORD, GREAT RIVER'S YOUNG WAVES OVERTAKE THE OLD!

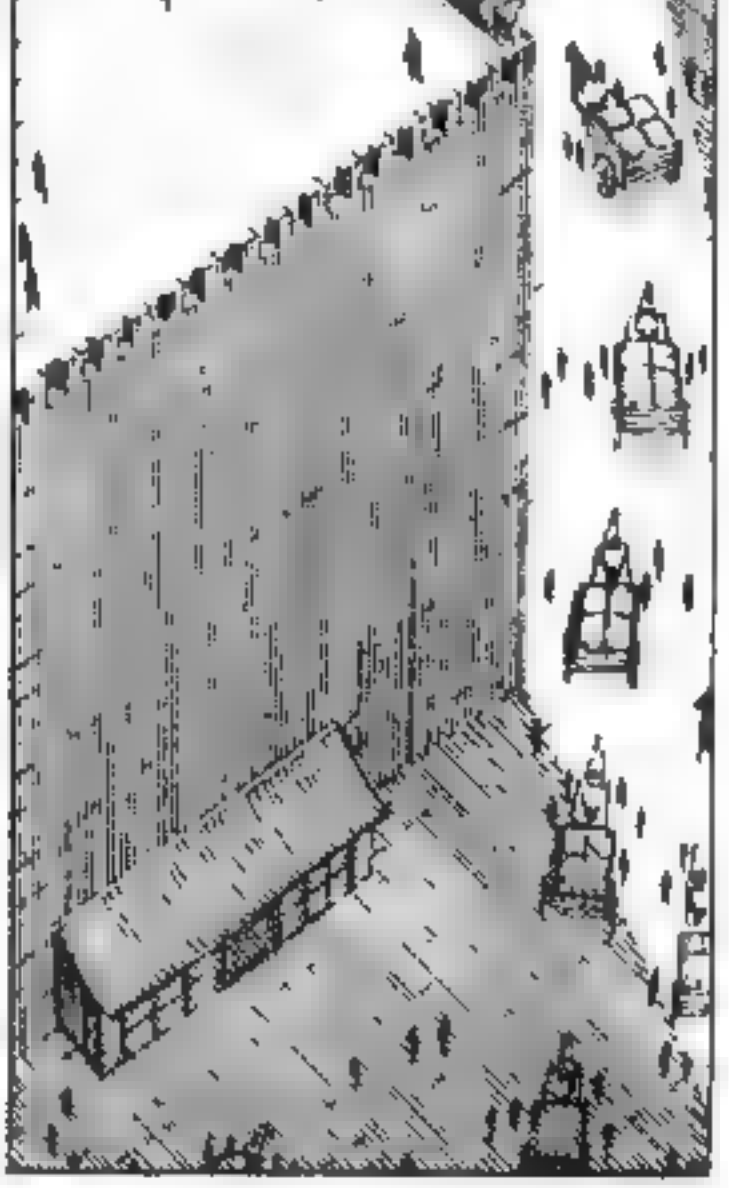



MEMBERS OF THE LIU CLAN WOULD FAVOR US, AND THE PEOPLE WOULD RESPECT US.


FIGHTING IN THE NAME OF SUPPORTING IMPERIAL HAN REALLY IS EFFECTIVE IN THIS DAY AND AGE.

FROM THE SHAN CLAN THIS TIME.

MORE SUPPLIES?



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CHAPTER 168 FEARLESS YOUTH

THEN YOU REALLY HAVE TO BE CAREFUL.

CAO CAO WANTS THE SHAN CLAN TO HELP THE SUN CLAN, BUT THE MOTIVE IS TO SURROUND YUAN SHU WITH ENEMIES, BUT WHEN IT'S OVER...

ZHANG ZHAO

WANT SOME LESSON IN BUSI-NESS MANAGE-MENT?

I CAN ONLY HANDLE THE EXTERNAL THREATS. INTERNAL AFFAIRS ARE BEST LEFT TO YOUR CARE, MASTER.

WE'LL BE CONTROLLED BY CAO CAO. I HOPE THAT YOU CAN LEAD THE SUN CLAN OUT OF THIS MONETARY TRAP, MASTER (TEACHER).

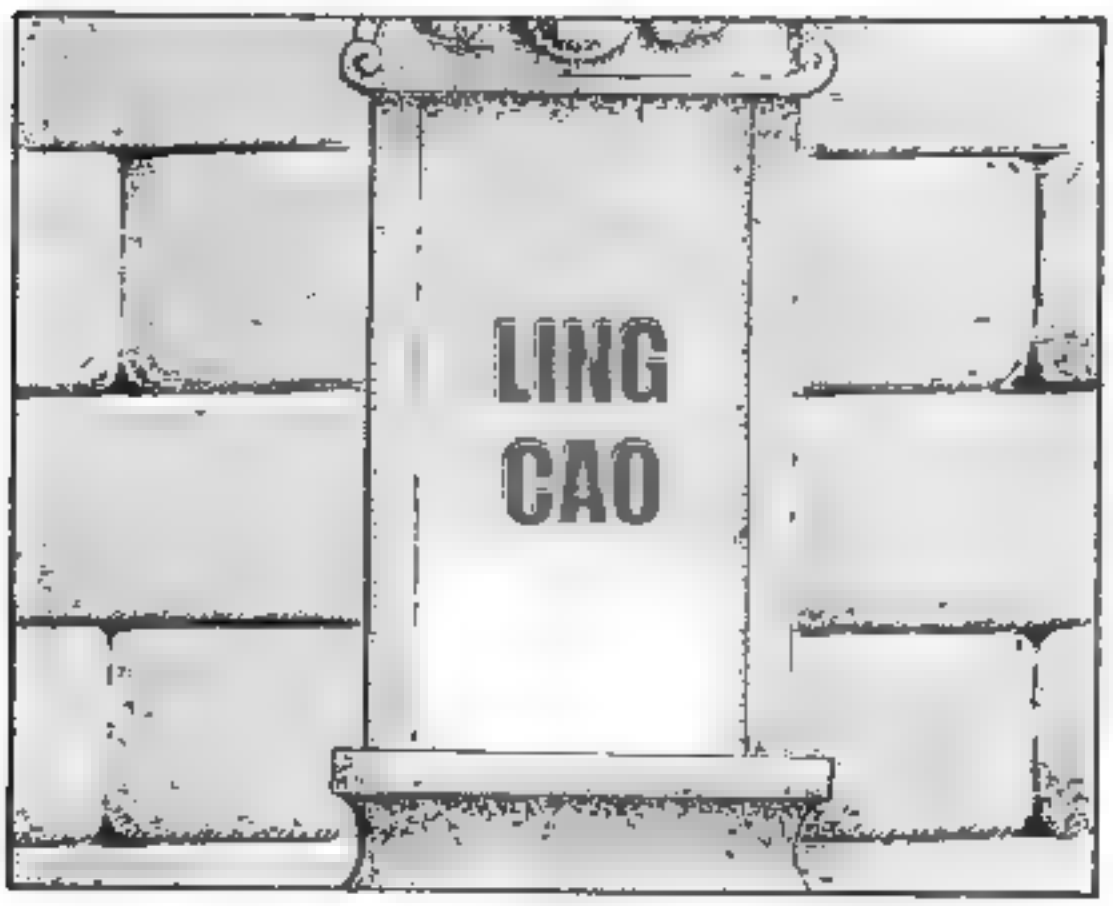
MASTER WATERMIRROR WAS QUITE RELUCTANT TO SEE ME GO. APPARENTLY HE ALREADY KNEW YOUR INTENTION.

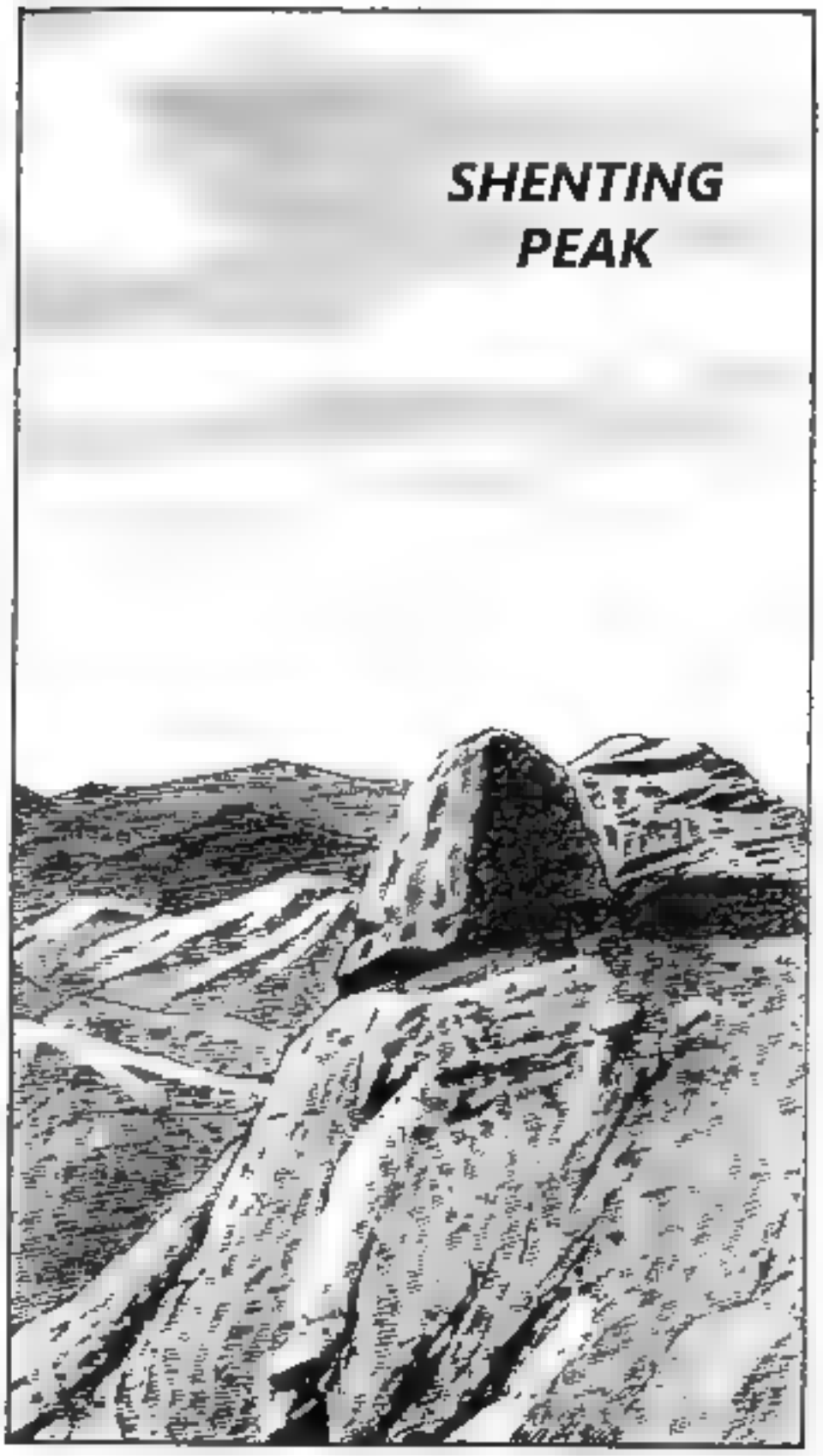
HMM, WHERE'S YOUR OATH-BROTHER?

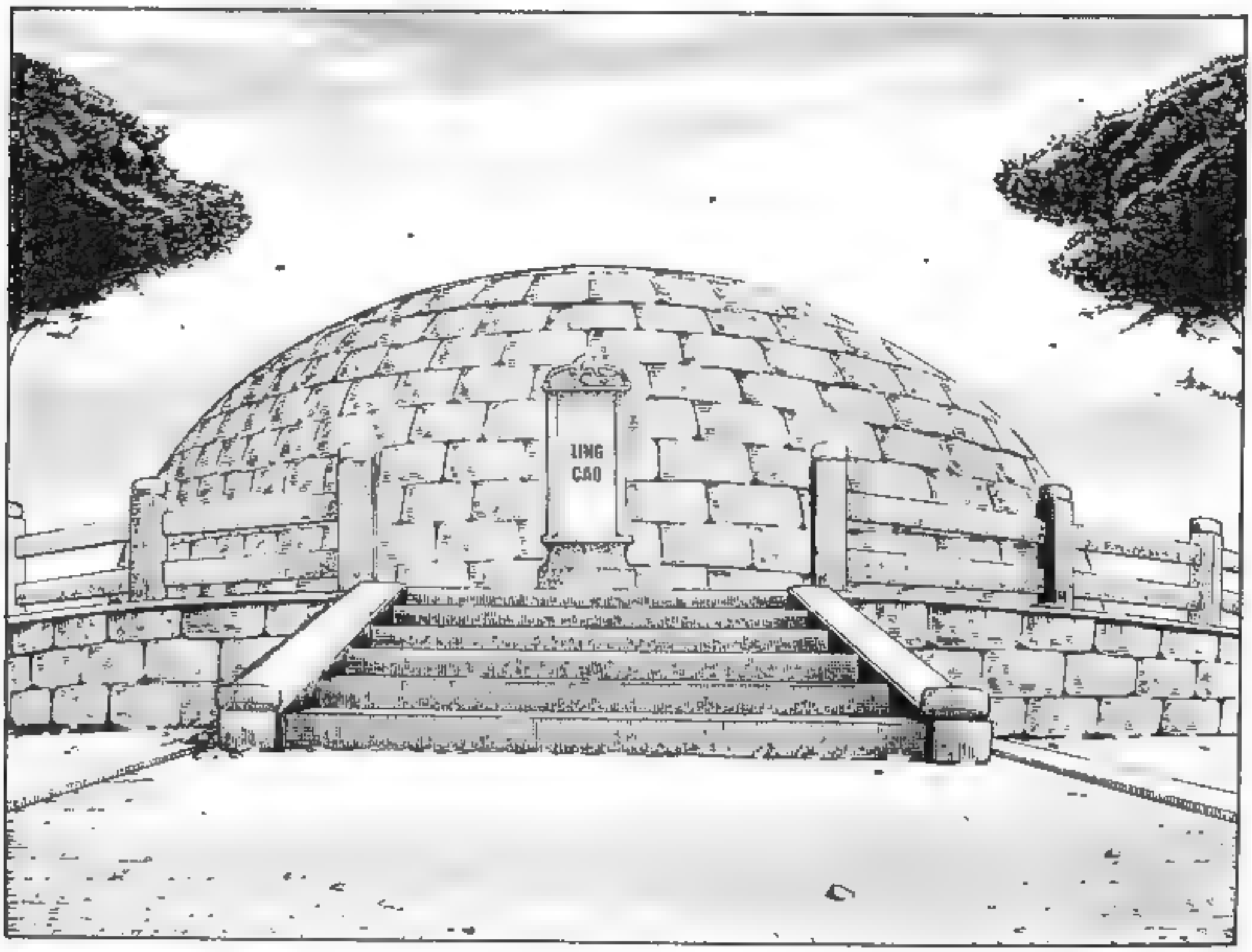
DON'T TELL ME THAT BOY RAN OFF AGAIN?

HAHA, I'M TERRIBLE AT CONTROLLING INTERNAL AFFAIRS.

SINCE YOU ARE ALREADY HERE, MASTER, PLEASE CONTINUE TO TEACH THIS UNWORTHY STUDENT OF YOURS.


LING
CAO


SHENTING
PEAK


LING
CAO

EXCELLENT CRAFTSMANSHIP. I LIKE IT VERY MUCH.

NO, MY MOTHER FIXED THAT ONE.

DON'T YOU HATE ME, LING TONG?

SHE SAYS SHE WANTS THE SUN FAMILY TO REMEMBER THE DEBT TO THE LING FAMILY.

NG CAO'S
SON

LING TONG

YOUNG MASTER, LAO DA IS HERE.

AYE, LONG STORY; THAT SIMA REALLY SCARED ME HALF TO DEATH THIS TIME.

LAO DA, I HEARD YOU GOT REAL SICK...

BUT THAT HELMSMAN REALLY KNOWS WHAT HE'S DOING - HE EVEN TAMED MS. SHAN.

DONE, AND THEN ZHOU YU SENT ME HERE TO "ESCORT" YOU HOME.

WAS THE SUPPLIES DELIVERED?

BUT YOU SHOULDN'T LEAVE WITHOUT NOTICE. WE SENT LING CAO TO DIE LAST TIME; DON'T WANT TO REPEAT THAT TODAY.

WHAT'S TO FEAR? LIU YAO'S MEN WOULDN'T DARE TO TOUCH A BIG-SHOT LIKE OUR YOUNG MASTER.

OH, LING TONG, THIS IS...

TODAY IS LING CAO'S BIRTHDAY. HOW CAN I FORGET?

PA!

OH NO.

RIGHT!

LOOK OUT!

YOUNG MASTER LOOK OUT!

小森
SHA~

YI PONG

AS EXPECTED!

UP THERE.

DOWN THERE.

HA~

HA~

HA~

HOO.

HA.

HOOO

CHA

WOAH!

(ARE YOU) LAO DA?

AND YOU ARE?

YOUNG WAVE.

PA~

KID.

OW!

PONG~

A YOUNG HERO IS BORN.

STATE YOUR NAME.

SO THE YOUNG WAVE DOES OVERTAKE THE OLD.

PLEASED TO MEET YOU.

TAISHI CI.

PLEASED TO MEET YOU.

LIU YAO'S MAIN CAMP

SIR! WE'VE SPOTTED SUN CE AT SHENTING PEAK!

LIU

IT IS SAID THAT A SUN FAMILY SUBORDINATE WAS BURIED THERE, MY LORD. PERHAPS HE WENT THERE TO PAY HIS RESPECT?

IMPOSSIBLE. THAT'S A STRATEGICALLY WEAK LOCATION; WHY WOULD HE TAKE SUCH A RISK?

SO FAR THE SUN ARMY HASN'T BROKEN OUR MAJOR DEFENSIVE POSITION HERE, I THINK...

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CHAPTER 169 SOLDIERS GIVE THEIR LIVES

THIS IS A TRICK TO LURE US OUT. LET'S WAIT AND SEE.

BUT TAISHI CI THOUGHT IT'S THE PERFECT OPPORTUNITY, SO HE WENT. HOW CAN WE JUST LET HIM GO IT ALONE?

RECORD KEEPER, IF WE'RE NOT GOING TO FALL FOR THIS TRICK, SUN CE WILL ATTACK FROM SHANGGU INSTEAD. SO WE SHOULD TRANSFER HALF OF OUR FORCES TO GUARD THERE.

YES-SIR.

YOUNG PEOPLE ARE ALWAYS EAGER TO PROVE THEMSELVES. THIS IS A GOOD CHANCE TO TEACH HIM A LESSON.

BUT HOW SHOULD WE TELL OUR MEN ABOUT TAISHI CI'S ACTION...

SINCE HE HAS ALREADY FALLEN INTO THE TRAP, WHY SHOULD I SEND MORE MEN TO DIE?

JUST SAY HE SECRETLY WENT TO KILL SUN CE.

CALL HIM BRAVE IF HE WINS; CALL HIM FOOLHARDY IF HE LOSES.

TAISHI CI IS A SMART WARRIOR, MY LORD, IF HE DOES KILL SUN CE WE WILL WIN WITHOUT A BATTLE!

I HAVE NOTHING AGAINST HIM WINNING IF HE DOES. AND IT WILL SERVE AS A WARNING TO OTHERS IF HE LOSES. EITHER WAY HAS ITS PURPOSE.

DECISIVENESS IS THE RIGHT IDEA, BUT IT'S UTTER FOOLISHNESS IF HE DOESN'T SEE THE BIG PICTURE!

SOLDIERS IN ACTION NEED NOT OBEY THEIR LORD... WHAT FOOLISH ANCIENT SAYING!

RAIN SFX

IT'S MY FAULT FOR TRANSFERRING HIM TO THE FRONTLINE.

WHAT CRAP ABOUT YOUNG WAVES OVERTAKING THE OLD. WHERE WOULD THEY BE WITHOUT THE OLD WAVES CLEARING A PATH?

THE THIRD BATTAL-ION HAS RETUR-NED.

THE HEAVY RAIN MIGHT NOT DETER ARMY MOVEMENT, MY LORD, BUT THE RATIONS TRANSPORT WILL HAVE SOME DIFFICULTIES. THEREFORE THE ENEMY WOULD NOT DARE TO COME.

MY LORD, SINCE THE ENEMY CANNOT GO UP THE MOUNTAIN, IF SUN CE IS STILL THERE,

THEN SUN CLAN'S MEN MUST HAVE RETREATED. LET'S HOLD OFF ON ANY FIGHTING, AND TAKE ACTION AS NEEDED.

WHAT'S THE POINT OF GOING NOW?

I'M WILLING TO GO HELP TAISHI CI. MAYBE... WE COULD STILL SAVE HIM.

EVEN THE 'UNDEFEATED' ZHANG YING WAS KILLED. HOW COULD THIS ROOKIE SURVIVE?

RAIN SFX

FORGET IT. WE'LL PLAN (THE NEXT STEP) AFTER WE EAT.

THE OUTPOST SAYS SUN CE'S ARMY FROM NIUZHU IS SPEEDILY CLIMBING THE MOUNTAIN!

AND THEY WERE SHOUTING SUN CE'S NAME ALONG THE WAY, MAYBE...

COULD SUN CE STILL BE AT SHENTING PEAK?

IF OUR ENTIRE ARMY ARE TO SURROUND SHENTING PEAK...

IF WE CAN TRAP THEM UP THERE, THIS WILL BE THE PERFECT OPPORTUNITY.

IF THEY ARE MOVING QUICKLY, MY LORD, THEY WOULD NOT BE CARRYING A LOT, ESPECIALLY NOT FOOD.

PONG-

YES! A GREAT... GREAT OPPORTUNITY!

RATIONS WILL COME AFTER THE FIGHTING FORCE!

WE MUST MOVE FASTER THAN THEM! EVERYONE UP THE MOUNTAIN FOR DEPLOYMENT!

WOOM
WOOM

HUFF!

HUFF!

HUFF!

WHO IS THIS LING CAO? IS HE WORTH HIS MASTER'S LIFE?

A MASTER MUST NEVER FORGET A LOYAL AND BRAVE SUBORDINATE. IT'S WORTH IT.

WHAT AN HONORABLE FOOL.

SHA~

嚓

BIG DEAL, LIKE ANYONE CARED IF I DIED

(YOU ARE A FOOL TOO)

SO ARE YOU.

RIGHT... A MASTER WHO CARES ABOUT HIS MEN WILL HAVE LOYAL AND BRAVE SERVANTS... I BET THE ENTIRE ARMY WILL COME TO SAVE YOU.

MY MEN... IF THEY DON'T SEE ME SOON... WILL COME... TO FIND ME.

DON'T KNOW? WHAT KIND OF MASTER ARE YOU!

I DON'T KNOW ABOUT THAT.

PA~

PA~

PA~

TAISHI CI... I'M TELLING YOU, I NEVER WORRY ABOUT WHAT MY MEN ARE DOING!

YOU'LL PAY DEARLY IF YOU EMPLOY THE WRONG SORT!

SOLDIERS IN ACTION NEED NOT OBEY THEIR LORD TO LET THEM DO WHAT THEY DO BEST. THAT'S HOW A MASTER SHOULD TREAT HIS SERVANTS.

SUN CE...

TOO BAD...

YES...

IT MUST BE WONDERFUL TO SERVE UNDER YOU!

PA~

TOO BAD YOU CAN ONLY SERVE ME IN ANOTHER LIFETIME, TAISHI CI!

YOU BETTER VISIT MY GRAVE TOO!

HA HA HA HA!

HA HA HA HA...

PONG~

PONG~

PA~

HUFF!

HUFF!

HUFF!

唰

ONE BIG GROUP, ONE SMALL.

CORRECT.

FOOTSTEPS. PEOPLE ARE COMING...

STILL CAN'T SEE THEM. WE'RE NOT THERE YET.

SPLIT UP AND GUARD EACH PASS. DON'T LET SUN CE'S ARMY COME THIS WAY!

LOOK! IT REALLY IS TAISHI CI!

GOODGOD, HE'S STILL ALIVE.

WE WIN IF SUN CE CAN BE CAPTURED ALIVED!

SUN CE IS RIGHT THERE! HURRY!

WHAT'S BAD ABOUT AN IMPENDING VICTORY?

CONGRATULATIONS, LIU YAO'S ARMY IS FINALLY UP THE MOUNTAIN!

TOO BAD,

TOO BAD...

HE DOESN'T KNOW HOW TO USE PEOPLE LIKE I DO

SIR! SUN CE'S MEN ARE HERE! ONLY A SMALL TEAM!

HUANG GAI

SPLIT UP AND SURROUND THEM!

LIKE HELL YOU DO! LOOK AT THIS MESS YOU MADE!

OLD MAN HUANG, WHAT ARE THE OTHERS DOING?

ONLY A SMALL TEAM CAME. I DON'T SEE HOW YOU'RE USING THEM.

ARE YOU HUNGRY, BOY?

MOST OF OUR FORCES WENT TO DEPLOY AT SHANGGU.

AND THE OTHER HALF WENT UP TO SHENTING PEAK! HERE WE ONLY HAVE...

THEY TRAVEL LIGHT FOR THE SPEED, AND THEIR GOAL IS THE BIG PICTURE!

THEY ARE COMING HERE INSTEAD OF GOING TO RESCUE SUN CE!

DID HIS MEN GO INSANE?

OR ARE THEY BETTING IT ALL?

LIU YAO'S MAIN CAMP WAS TAKEN OVER IN THE RAINY AFTERNOON.

THEY WERE ROBBED OF ALL OF THEIR RATIONS AND MILITARY FUNDING.

MASTER (TEACHER) ZHANG ZHAO,

I'LL GIVE YOU THE CAPITAL TO INVEST IN YOUR BUSINESS.

THE HISTORICAL RECORD SAYS,
SUN CE WAS A HANDSOME MAN WHO
WAS QUITE SOCIABLE.
HE WAS GENEROUS, OPEN-MINDED,
AND KNEW HOW TO USE THE RIGHT PEOPLE.

SOME SAY, SUN CE WAS THE CLOSEST MORTAL TO GOD DURING THAT ERA

HE WAS CLOSE TO THE HEAVENS

THEREFORE HE ALSO SAW GHOSTS MORE OFTEN THAN THE AVERAGE MAN

UNBELIE-VABLE...

HAHA...

UNBELIE-VABLE

CHAPTER 170 GHOSTLY SHADOWS

WHY... WHY ARE YOU STILL SAVING ME?

I'M ALSO... RESPONSIBLE... FOR YOUR FATHER'S DEATH.

IT'S THE DUTY OF A FAMILY SUBORDINATE.

KID... ARE WE FRIENDS TOO?

WE MUST DO EVERYTHING THAT BENEFITS THE SUN CLAN.

THE LING FAMILY EXISTS SOLELY FOR THE SUN CLAN.

EVEN IF THEY... HAD KILLED MY FATHER!

WHOEVER'S LOYAL TO THE SUN CLAN IS MY FRIEND

LAO DA, YOUR BREATH REALLY STINKS...

EVEN GHOSTS COULDN'T BEAR IT ANYMORE.

(WORD-PLAY "SMALL GHOST" FOR A YOUNG PERSON, "OLD GHOST" FOR AN OLD PERSON)

HAHA, A SQUIRT AND A GEEZER.

NO PROBLEM. WE CAN STILL BE FRIENDS IN THE UNDERWORLD

HA... HOW I WISH... THEY'RE REALLY GHOSTS.

MOVE.

DON'T STAND IN THE WAY.

小燦
CHA~

KID, THE GATES TO HELL ISN'T OPEN YET.

DON~

ZHOU TAI

GO THIS WAY.

GOT IT.

HAHA

THERE'S AN AMBUSH?

HE'S DEAD MEAT. GO!

I...

STAY CALM. NO ONE'S AROUND; HE'S ALONE!

LIKE BEING ALONE!

CHA~

GO TOGETHER.

HAVE SOME COMPANY DOWN THERE.

PONG~

HMM, HE REALLY IS DOWN THERE.

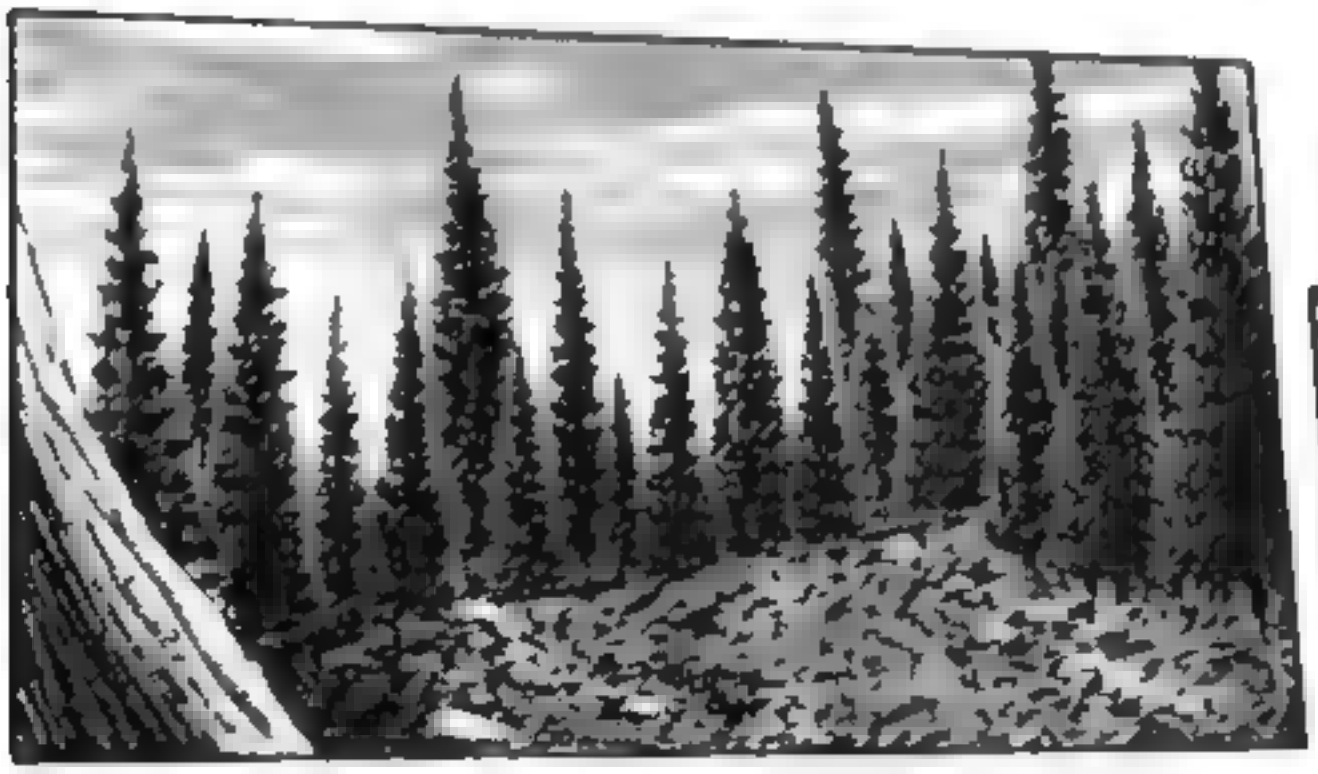
HE... HE'S JUST LIKE DIAN WEI..

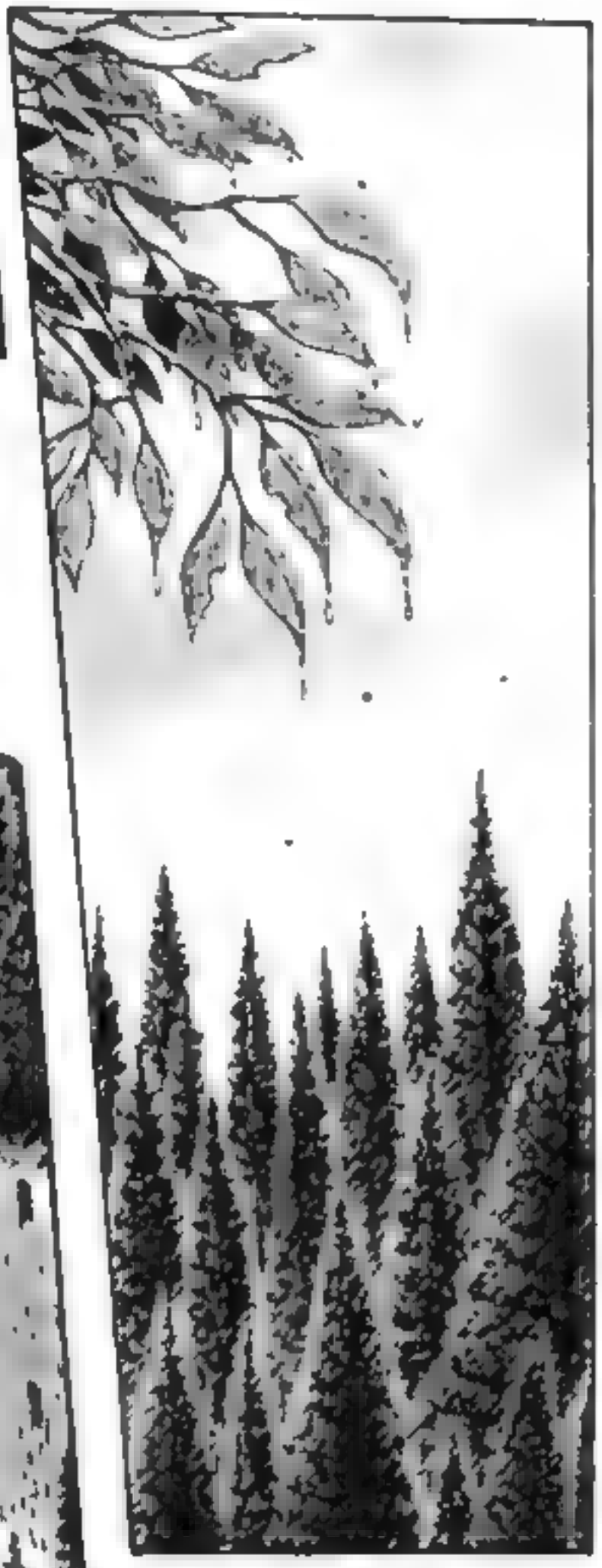
DA-

YOUNG MASTER IS NEAR THE RIVER DOWNSTREAM. YOU TWO GO FIRST.

THEY WERE GHOSTS.

SO...





THE MAIN CAMP IS LOST, RETREAT TO THE SECOND CAMP!

STAY CALM! OUR LORD IS OKAY!

WAIT.

STOP FOOLING AROUND! EVERYBODY'S WAITING FOR YOU!

HOLD ON.

HUFF...

HUFF...

AREN'T YOU HUNGRY, TAISHI CI?

("ONLY BY EATING YOU JP CAN MY HUNGER BE FI..ED")

VERY... BUT, ONLY YOUR DEATH... CAN SATISFY MY HUNGER!

YOU WIN, HUNGRY MAN.

"TENACITY. I'M AFRAID OF YOU." BECAUSE SUN CE DOESN'T WANT TO KILL TAISHI EVEN IF HE SHOULD. AND NOT SURE HOW TO STOP HIS PURSUIT. ALSO, ANOTHER PUN. "HUNGRY GHOST" IS JUST A WAY TO CALL A VERY HUNGRY PERSON

SHOO~

WHAT... IS THE MEANING OF THIS?

PA!

I DON'T NEED YOUR PITY.

I HAVE TO TAKE THE EASTERN REGION. NO TIME TO VISIT YOUR GRAVE.

PONG

THAT'S MY "HEAD". USE IT TO AVOID PUNISHMENT.

KEEP OR NOT?

(AS IN "SHOULD I TAKE HIS LIFE?", BUT COULD ALSO BE "STAY OR NOT?")

IT'S EASY TO DIE, TAISHI CI...

("IT'S EASY TO BE A GHOST")

(BUT) IT'S HARD TO LIVE!

("BE A HUMAN" IN THE SENSE OF LIVING ACCORDING TO RULES AND MORALS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

DON~

THIS.

A TRADE.

I WILL "TREASURE IT".

NO ONE KNOWS WHAT GOES ON IN OUR YOUNG MASTER'S HEAD.

JUST LET HIM GET AWAY LIKE THAT?

"LONE PALADIN", WHAT DO YOU THINK?

BOTH?

ONE I JUST GOT A TASTE OF; THE OTHER... A VERY DEPENDABLE YOUTH.

BOTH ARE EXCELLENT.

THEN I WANT TO PUT THEM TOGETHER...

LET'S GO, BO FU.

YES.

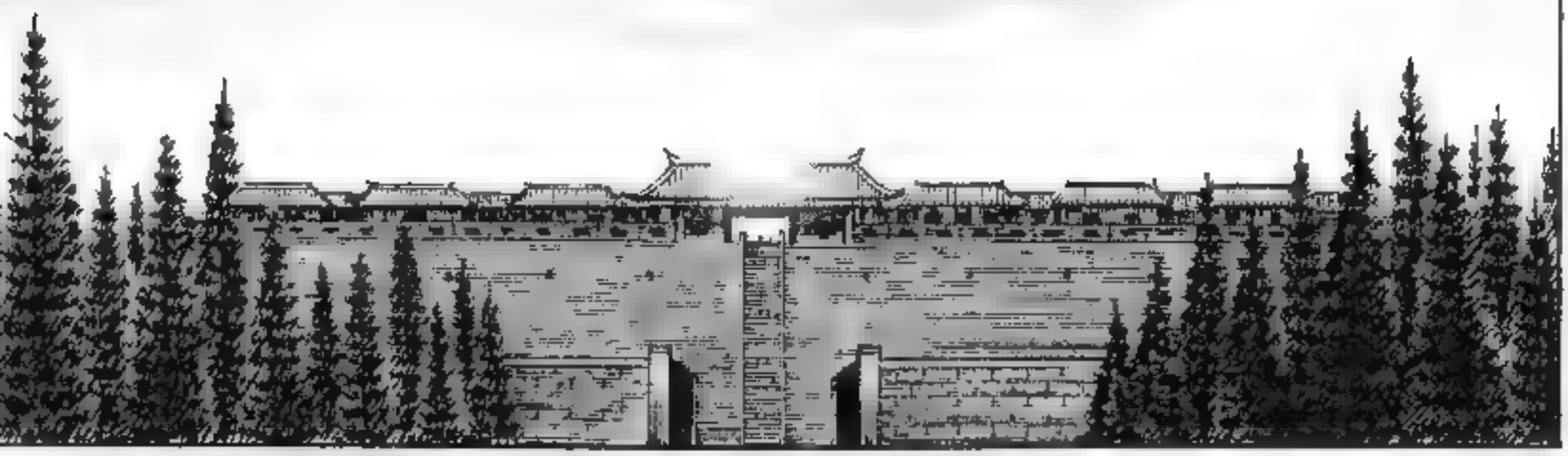
YOU WANT TO USE A TACTIC TRICK SCHEME?

ARE YOU PLANNING SOMETHING, YOUNG MASTER?

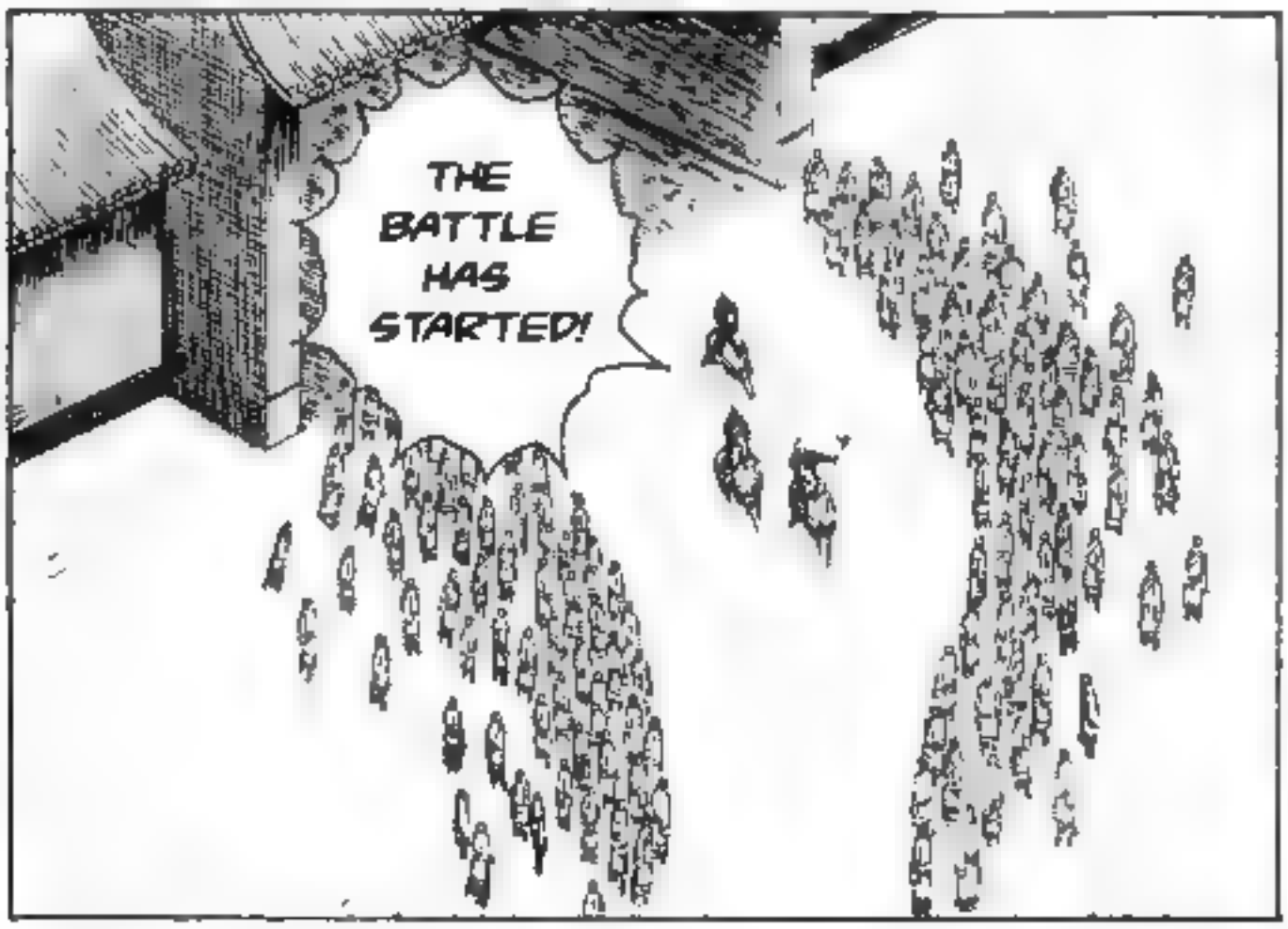
TAKE A FEW MEN AND GO UP THE MOUNTAIN.

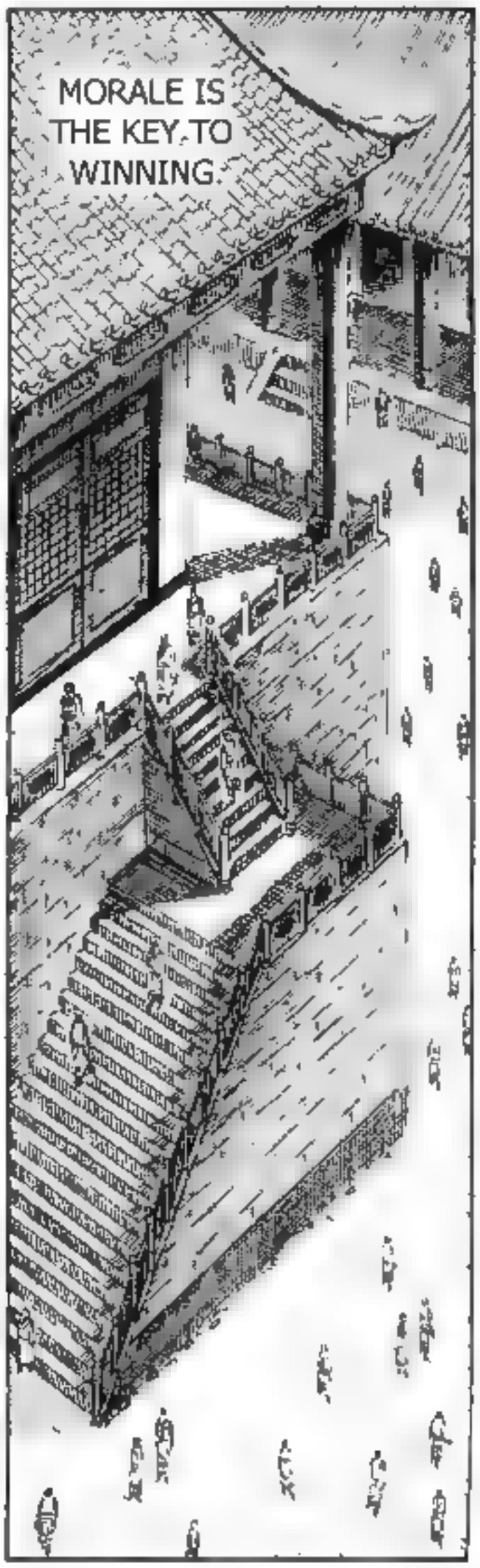
INVITE A GHOST OUT FOR ME.

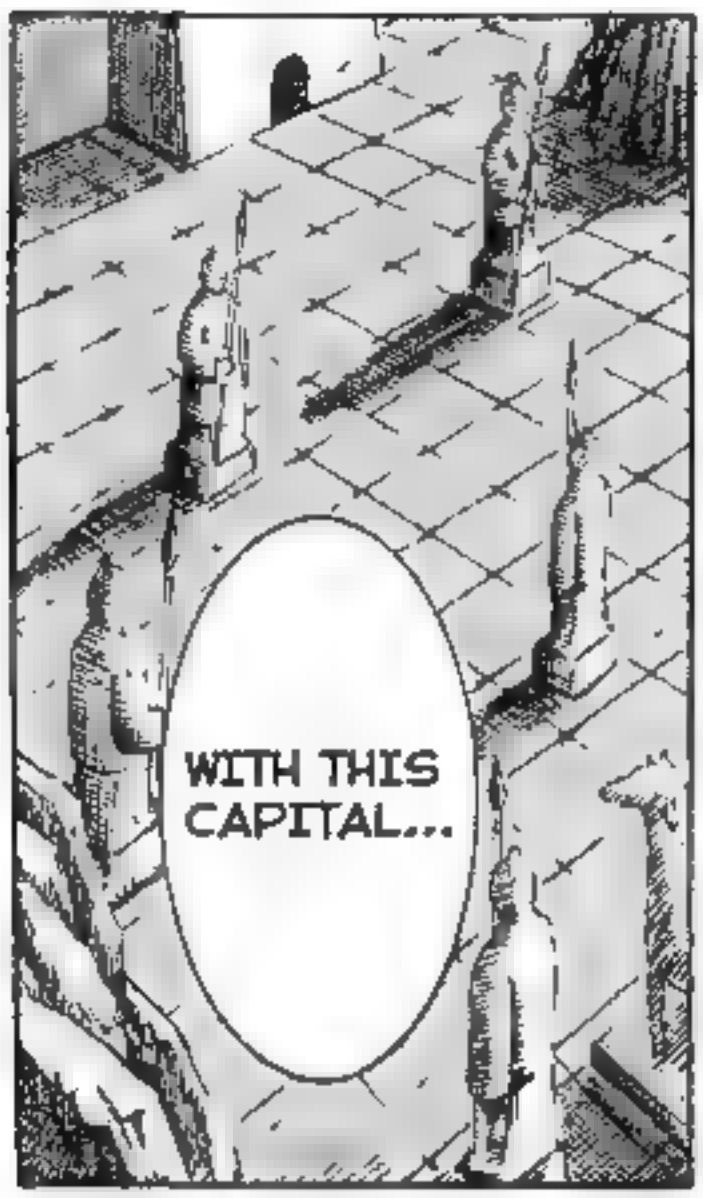
"WEI LIAO ZI" SAYS:
OPPORTUNITY DEPENDS
ON REACTION TO EVENTS;
FIGHTING DEPENDS ON
CONTROLLING MORALE.

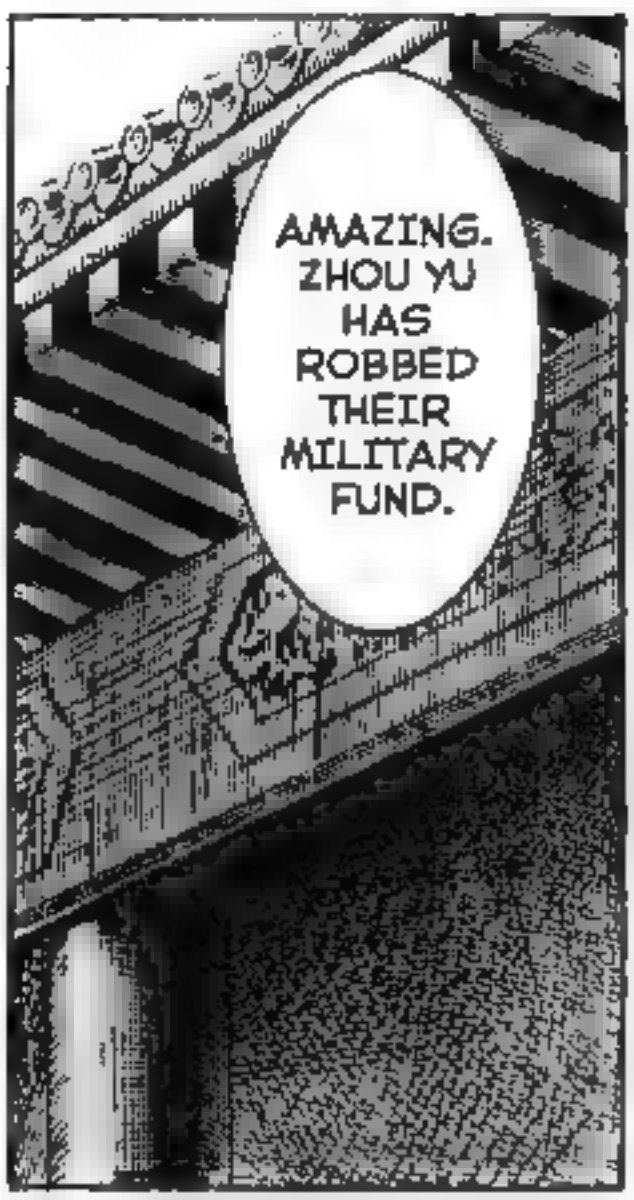


WEI LIAO WAS FROM THE STATE OF WEI DURING THE INTERMEDIATE WARRING PERIOD. HIS BOOK "WEI LIAO-ZI" WAS A BOOK ABOUT MILITARY STRATEGIES. SIMILAR TO SUN-ZI'S "ART OF WAR"









CHAPTER 171 THE AURA OF DEATH RISES

ZHANG ZHAO CAN SURELY DO GREAT THINGS.

IF IT WERE EITHER OF YOU, WHAT'S NEXT?

THERE WILL BE MANY BATTLES ON THE PLAINS, WHICH MEANS FIFTH WON'T BE ABLE TO USE SURPRISE ATTACKS.

LIU YAO LOST THIS ROUND, BUT HE STILL HAS SOME INFLUENCE IN THE EASTERN REGION.

IT'S TOUGH TO COMPETE AGAINST EXPERIENCED GENERALS WHEN IT COMES TO FORMATIONS.

IF IT'S UP TO YOU TWO... HOW LONG WILL IT TAKE?

HE WILL JOIN WITH HIS COALITION ALLIES ZE RONG AND XUE LI FOR A COUNTER OFFENSIVE.

I THINK AT LEAST A YEAR AND A HALF.

RIGHT. IT'LL BE HARD TO WIN, UNLESS A MIRACLE SHOWS UP.

(AGAIN WITH THE WORD-PLAY ON "SEEING GHOST")

THEY HAVE TO MAKE SURE THE MORALE REMAINS HIGH SO THE FIGHTING FORCE CAN LAST.

LENGTHY CAMPAIGNS HURT THE PEOPLE. IT SEEMS THE PEOPLE OF THE EASTERN REGION HAVE MORE SUFFERING TO LIVE THROUGH.

RATION WILL BE A FACTOR, FOR THAT ZHOU YU HAS DONE A GOOD JOB.

SUN CE IS A HARD ONE TO FIGURE OUT.

YES. HE'S JUST LIKE LU BU, UNHINDERED BY RULES AND MORALS WHEN IT COMES TO ACHIEVING HIS GOAL.

SO WHAT ABOUT THE LEADER?

THE ENEMY NUMBER IS STAGGERING, I BET SUN CE WOULD RETREAT.

SIR, YESTERDAY LIU YAO HAS JOINED FORCES WITH ZE RONG, AND WERE HEADING FOR NIUZHU.

YES, BUT HE ONLY TOLD THE ARMY TO RETREAT TO SHENTING PEAK.

I THINK HE WANTS TO SPLIT UP THE ENEMY FORCES. BUT...

THAT'S ODD. IF HE RETREATS TO THE MOUNTAIN TOP, WOULDN'T HE BE SURROUNDED?

SEVENTH... THAT... WAS YESTERDAY.

RIGHT, THAT'S ALREADY THE PAST...

WHAT'S PASSED IS IN THE PAST; CAN WE GO BACK?

("CAN (WE/ONE) LOOK BACK?")

SHENTING PEAK, OUTSKIRTS

THE FIRST BATTALION HAS SEALED OFF THE FIRST EXIT AT THE FOOT OF THE HILL!

THE SECOND BATTALION HAS SEALED OFF THE SOUTHERN EXIT!

THE THIRD BATTALION HAS DONE PREPARING FOR ANY EMERGENCY!

THE FOURTH BATTALION WILL PROTECT THE RATIONS!

MINISTER OF XIAPI KINGDOM

ZE RONG

MOVEMENT IS EASY ON THE PLAINS. THIS IS THE SAFEST FORMATION. WHAT DO YOU THINK?

XIAPI AND PENGCHENG WERE PROMOTED TO KINGDOM STATUS AND WERE ADMINISTERED BY XUZHOU. ZE RONG AND XUE JI WERE OFFICIALS IN EXILE

IGNORING THE ADVANTAGE OF FLAT GROUND - CLIMBING HIGH UP INSTEAD.

("SEES GHOST")

UNLESS A MIRACLE ...

YEAH. HOW CAN HE EXPECT TO BREAK THIS HEAVY SIEGE AND WIN SO EASILY?

I WANT TO SEE HOW SUN CE CAN WIN WITH HIS MOST RIDICULOUS FORMATION.

A NICE TAUNT.

WHAT'S THAT?

HAHAHA, WE'VE BEEN CALLING ALL DAY, BUT THEY'RE TOO AFRAID TO COME DOWN.

I'M... REALLY SCARED...

BUT...

NOT OF DEATH...

HEAVEN... IS ALLOWING SUCH A SCOUNDREL TO LIVE!

A BENEVOLENT MAN NEVER HARMS OTHERS FOR HIS OWN SURVIVAL...

CONFUCIUS ONCE SAID,

FLAUNTING AN ITEM OF THE DECEASED STOLEN FROM A GRAVE!

WHERE?

YOUNG MASTER, WHERE IS JUSTICE?

THEY ARE HERE!

A DIRECT CONFRON-TATION, EXCELLENT!

THEY'RE COMING THIS WAY!

BACK UP, THEN ATTACK FROM BOTH SIDES WHEN THEY'RE CLOSER!

GALLOPING SFX

噔

WHERE IS JUSTICE?

JUSTICE?

DO YOU KNOW RIGHT FROM WRONG!

WE
DIE
FOR
THE
SAKE
OF
BENEV-
OLENCE!

KILL~
殺

殺
ドレル～

SUCH... SUCH A POWERFUL AURA OF DEATH!

REMAIN CALM! MAIN FORCE, KEEP MOVING BACKWARD!

LEFT AND RIGHT FLANKS ATTACK!

NO GOOD! THEY'RE TOO FAST!

IT'S THE [illegible] SHAPED [illegible]

NO, IT'S THE SHARP BLADE FORMATION!

CUTTING THROUGH EASTERN REGION'S STRONGEST DEFENSE!

YOU'RE NOT FOOLING ME...

("DON'T THINK THAT I DON'T KNOW")

THAT'S RIGHT. I DID IT TO RAISE MORALE.

THE PAST IS GONE, BUT YOUR FATHER'S HEROIC SPIRIT CAME BACK AGAIN TO HELP HIS UNWORTHY MASTER.

IF THERE IS JUSTICE, YOU WILL DIE A GRUESOME DEATH.

IF THERE IS JUSTICE,

I SWEAR, WHEN HEAVEN REPRIMANDS,

PRAY THAT I WILL SUFFER A HUNDRED DAYS OF PAIN BEFORE I DIE!

THE HISTORICAL RECORD SAYS,
SO THE COMMON MEN WHO MET
SUN CE WERE ALL WILLING TO
SERVE HIM WHOLEHEARTEDLY,

EVEN TO DIE FOR HIM.

CONFUCIUS SAYS, A MAN BECOMES INDEPENDENT AT AGE THIRTY," AND UNFLAPPABLE AT FORTY

HOWEVER, THIS SAGE COULD NOT HAVE FORESEEN THE MATURITY OF THIS TIME PERIOD.

JINGXIAN, REAR SUPPORT FORCE FOR LIU YAO'

IT'S ALMOST DARK. WE'LL MAKE IT EVEN IF WE GO TOMORROW. NO HURRY.

YES SIR.

YEAH, NO RUSH. OUR JOINT FORCES WILL WIN FOR SURE. WHY SHOULD WE SEND REINFORCEMENT SO EAGERLY?

YOUNG PEOPLE ARE ALWAYS TRYING TO PROVE THEMSELVES. WHAT CAN YOU DO...

MY LORD SENT ME TO REQUEST MOBILIZ-ATION.

CHAPTER 172 SIGHING AT THE DOOR

NO_ MOBILIZ- ATION TAKES TIME; SURELY YOU MUST WAIT!

WE'RE DOING OUR BEST, TAISHI CI, DON'T PUSH IT!

THIS IS THE REAR BASE ANYWAY, HOW COULD THEY GET IN HERE?

XUE LI OF MOLING MUST'VE ALREADY SENT THEIR FORCES; HOW CAN WE FALL BEHIND?

JINGXIAN AND MOLING ARE OUR LAST DEFENSES. WE CANNOT BE REMISS EVEN IF WE'RE WINNING.

GENERAL LI!

YES, IT'S A MATTER OF LIFE AND DEATH. YOU ALL SHOULD LEARN FROM TAISHI CI.

LI YUAN

I'M OLD AND WEAK, CAN'T BE AS WATCHFUL OF MY MEN. PLEASE FORGIVE ME, TAISHI CI.

I'LL GIVE YOU FOUR HOURS.

BUT MOBILIZATION DOES TAKE TIME, A COMPROMISE IS IN ORDER.

YEAH, THERE'S STILL TIME. MIGHT AS WELL GO SEE YOUR FAMILY.

MY ELDER, PLEASE FORGIVE THIS ARROGANT YOUTH.

ARE WE REALLY SENDING TROOPS, MY LORD?

STINKING BRAT THINKS HE'S ALL THAT!

THE COALITION IS FULL OF SOLDIERS AND GENERALS. WHEN DOES IT NEED US? WHY SHOULD WE BOTHER WASTING OUR RESOURCES AND ENERGY?

I BET THAT SNEAKY XUE LI IS JUST WAITING AT MOLING TOO.

HELL NO!

ARRO-
GANT
YOUTH,

DON'T YOU KNOW THAT THIS OLD MAN IS NO PUSHOVER.

"LET ME SEE SAL', 'THAN YOU HAVE ATE RICE"

SO WHAT? WE'LL BE THE ONES LAUGHING WHEN THE GOOD NEWS ARRIVES TOMORROW.

BUT... ISN'T THAT...

SHUT THE INNER GATES. DON'T LET HIM COME BACK.

아!
-ELD
MAN

SIR! SUN LE'S ARMY LAUNCHED THEIR ATTACK FROM SHENTING PEAK

THEIR ATTACK IS ALREADY A DISASTER FROM THE BEGINNING!

SAY "GO" INTO YOUR BRAIN")

NIUZHU'S JOINT FORCES HAVE BEEN BROKEN TO PIECES!

IF YOU GET THERE WE WILL SURELY PUSH THEM BACK.

MY LORD RETREATED TO THE REAR CAMP, WAITING FOR YOU TO SEND REINFOR-CEMENTS.

MOVE...
MOVE OUT
IMMEDIATELY!

SIR!

THE
RATIONS
SUPPLY ISN'T
READY YET,
GENERAL LI!

FORGET THAT
THE TROOPS
GO FIRST.
RATIONS WILL
FOLLOW

CAN WE...
STILL
MAKE IT?

THE CITY OF MOLING HAS BEEN SURROUNDED! LORD XUE LI REQUESTS AID!

HAS BEEN SET ON FIRE IN TWO PLACES

GENERAL LI THE BATTLE'S OUT...

WHAT SHOULD WE DO GENERAL LI...

GENERAL LI!

WHAT?

I LOOK LIKE THAT YOUNG SIR FROM YANZHOU?

THEN I THINK I KNOW WHO YOU MEAN.

YES, AT FIRST I THOUGHT HE CAME BACK FOR MY YOUNG MASTER AGAIN.

I HEARD THAT THIS YOUNG MAN IS ALREADY THE HEAD OF HIS FAMILY BUSINESS. AND RECENTLY HE HAS GAINED QUITE A FEW BUSINESS PARTNERS FROM HERE.

ABOUT YOUR YOUNG MASTER, WASN'T HE A TALENT IN HIS TEEN YEARS? NO WONDER HE GETS THESE VISITS.

BUT MY YOUNG MASTER IS STUBBORN; HE REFUSES TO "PICK A BETTER PLACE TO SETTLE".

SO HE CAN ONLY SIGH AT THE DOOR OF OPPORTUNITIES, WHILE HIS PEERS GET TO SHOW OFF THEIR MIGHT...

SERVANT! PREPARE A MEAL!

WITH ALL THE FIGHTING OUT THERE THE STREETS ARE UNSAFE; WHY IS THE DOOR STILL OPEN?

AH.

RIGHT, HE'S "HUNGRY".

HA, EVEN YOUNG MASTER IS MISTAKEN...

YOU AGAIN?

THE SIMA CLAN COULDN'T KEEP YOU.

("...DOESN'T HAVE THE MEANS TO KEEP YOU.")

(BUT) I CAN.

("I HAVE")

A WISE DECISION.

YOU... YOU PEOPLE... ARE...

THE RATIONS DEPOT HAS BEEN SET ON FIRE. ANY OTHER TASK FOR US?

YOU GUYS WILL REPRESENT THE SUN CLAN AND GO PROTECT THE RICH MERCHANTS IN THIS CITY.

YES-SIR.

TAISHI CI, THE SUN CLAN DOESN'T CARE ABOUT LINEAGE.

FAMILY STATUS, ORIGIN, CONNECTION, ET

WE WELCOME ANYONE WHO IS CAPABLE.

MANY THINGS IN HISTORY ARE UNCLEAR AND UNADDRESSED.

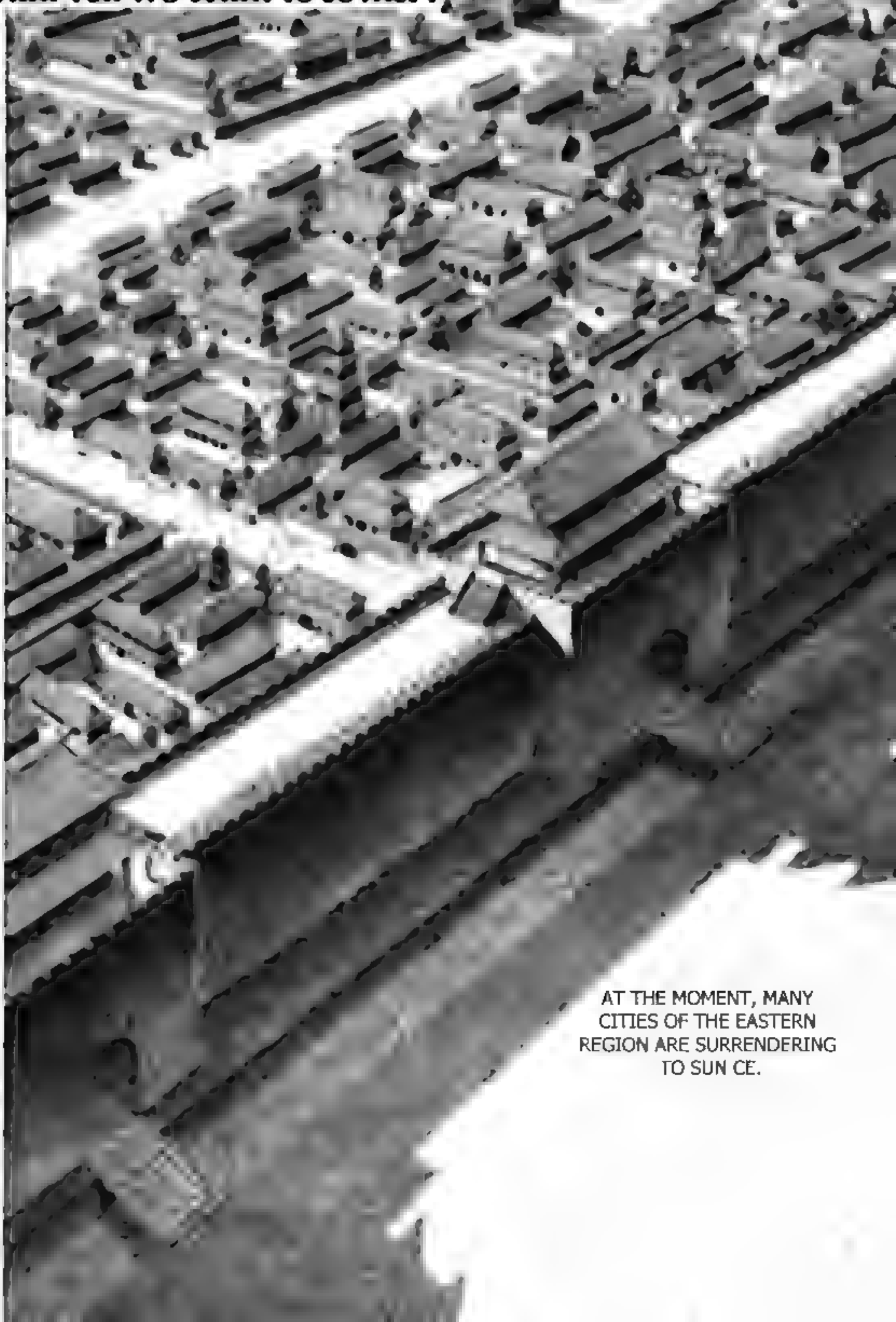
IN THE SUMMER OF THAT YEAR, SUN CE'S ARMY DEFEATED LIU YAO'S COALITION.

LIU YAO ESCAPED TO PENGZE.

AFTER THAT, HE AND ZE RONG TURNED ON EACH OTHER; THEY FOUGHT, AND THE DEFEATED ZE RONG FLED INTO THE MOUNTAINS, ONLY TO BE KILLED BY CIVILIANS.

DUE TO THE STRAIN OF THESE EVENTS, LIU YAO DIED FROM SICKNESS IN THE SAME YEAR.

CHAPTER 173 WHAT IS LOYALTY



STILL NO ANSWER FROM LIU YAO'S EIGHTH LEGION?

YOU'RE RIGHT. EVEN THOUGH WE'RE IN CONTROL OF THIS AREA, NOT EVERYTHING'S SETTLED. YOUR SUGGESTION IS WORTH CONSIDERING.

THEIR NEW CONDITION FOR SURRENDER IS AN AUTONOMOUS TERRITORY.

AS LONG AS THEY DON'T GO TO LIU BIAO'S SIDE, WE CAN REACH SOME SORT OF COMPROMISE.

SO... THE NINTH AND TENTH LEGIONS ASKED FOR THE SAME THING?

PERHAPS WE SHOULD JUST ACCEPT THAT NOW, AND DEAL WITH THEM AFTER WE CONQUER THE WHOLE EASTERN REGION.

OLD MAN HUANG, ISN'T THAT PLANTING THE SEED OF TROUBLE?

OUR NEXT TARGET IS WU COUNTY'S YAN BAI HU, AND WE STILL HAVE TO BE WARY OF LIU XUN...

ZHANG ZHAO WAS ABLE TO COLLECT THE NECESSARY FUNDING WITHIN THESE FEW DAYS, BUT YOU PEOPLE...

BO FU, YOU CAN'T COMPARE THE VALUE OF HUMAN LIVES AND MONEY.

NOW IS THE TIME TO RECOVER FROM THE FIGHTING. EVERYTHING ELSE CAN WAIT.

BUT MORE WILL DIE THE LONGER WE WAIT.

(MY) SAVIOR IS HERE.

YOUR WORDS ALWAYS SAVE ME THE TROUBLE OF PERSUASION.

WE NOW HAVE JINGXIAN'S POPULAR SUPPORT. BUT...

OH, ABOUT THE TASK I GAVE YOU...

IF YOU WANT A FIGHT, BETTER DO IT NOW. BO FU, YOU HAVE MY VOTE.

(THE WORD "VOTE" IS SERIOUSLY ANACHRONISTIC IN THE CONTEXT OF THIS STORY)

NOT THIS GUY.

TAISHI CI,

YOUR BOSS IS GONE. DO YOU WANT A NEW JOB?

I KNOW YOU'RE IN A HURRY, BUT DON'T BOTHER WASTING YOUR TIME ON ME.

I'VE MADE ARRANGE-MENTS FOR YOUR FAMILY.

YOUR MOTHER THINKS RATHER HIGHLY OF ME.

JUST KILL ME! OR YOU'LL REGRET IT LATER. I HAVE A BIG APPETITE.

WHY DO YOU WANT A SIMPLETON LIKE ME THEN, SINCE YOU'RE SO SKILLED?

LET ME TEACH YOU.

IF I WERE YOU, I'D PRETEND TO SURRENDER FIRST; YOU CAN THEN KILL ME AT THE RIGHT MOMENT AFTER GAINING MY TRUST.

BESIDES, EVERY LIVING MAN HAS HIS VALUE.

AS LONG AS YOU DON'T MIND WHAT THE WORLD THINKS; JUST SWALLOW YOUR PRIDE AND LEARN WHEN TO STRIKE. THAT WOULD BE WISE.

MY SUBORDINATE LING CAO SACRIFICED HIS LIFE FOR MY SUCCESSFUL ENTRANCE TO THE EASTERN REGION. EVEN AFTER HIS DEATH HE INSPIRED MY ARMY TO DEFEAT LIU YAO. IF YOU ALSO HAVE THIS ABILITY...

SON OF A BITCH!

HOW PITIFUL WOULD IT BE IF HE HAS THE SKILLS BUT NOT THE CHANCE TO SHINE?

ENOUGH. YOUR "FAMOUS WORDS" ARE MAKING ME SICK.

TAISHI CI, ALL CONFLICTS ARE CAUSED BY DOGMATISM.

EVEN IF HE CHOOSES DEATH, IT SHOULD BE MEANINGFUL.

喀 CHA~

ONLY HISTORY CAN DETERMINE IF THAT BELIEF IS RIGHT OR WRONG.

OR YOU CAN GO GATHER SOME FORCES AND LET'S FIGHT IT OUT ONCE AND FOR ALL.

I'LL GIVE YOU ANOTHER CHANCE.

YOU CAN KILL YOURSELF, BE A WORTHLESS LOYALIST.

YOU MUST BE THINKING, "HOW CAN I EXACT REVENGE WITHOUT AN ARMY?"

SEE THAT LIST OF NAMES. I BET YOU CAN'T REFUSE.

CONVENIENTLY THERE ARE A FEW LEGIONS LOCATED NEAR US. I TRUST THAT THEY'LL LISTEN TO YOU.

BO...
BO FU,
YOU'RE...

WOULDN'T IT BE EASIER TO DEAL WITH THE DIFFICULT PROBLEMS WHEN THEY'RE ALL LUMPED TOGETHER?

Z-ING

STINKING BRAT, ENOUGH OF YOUR GAMES!

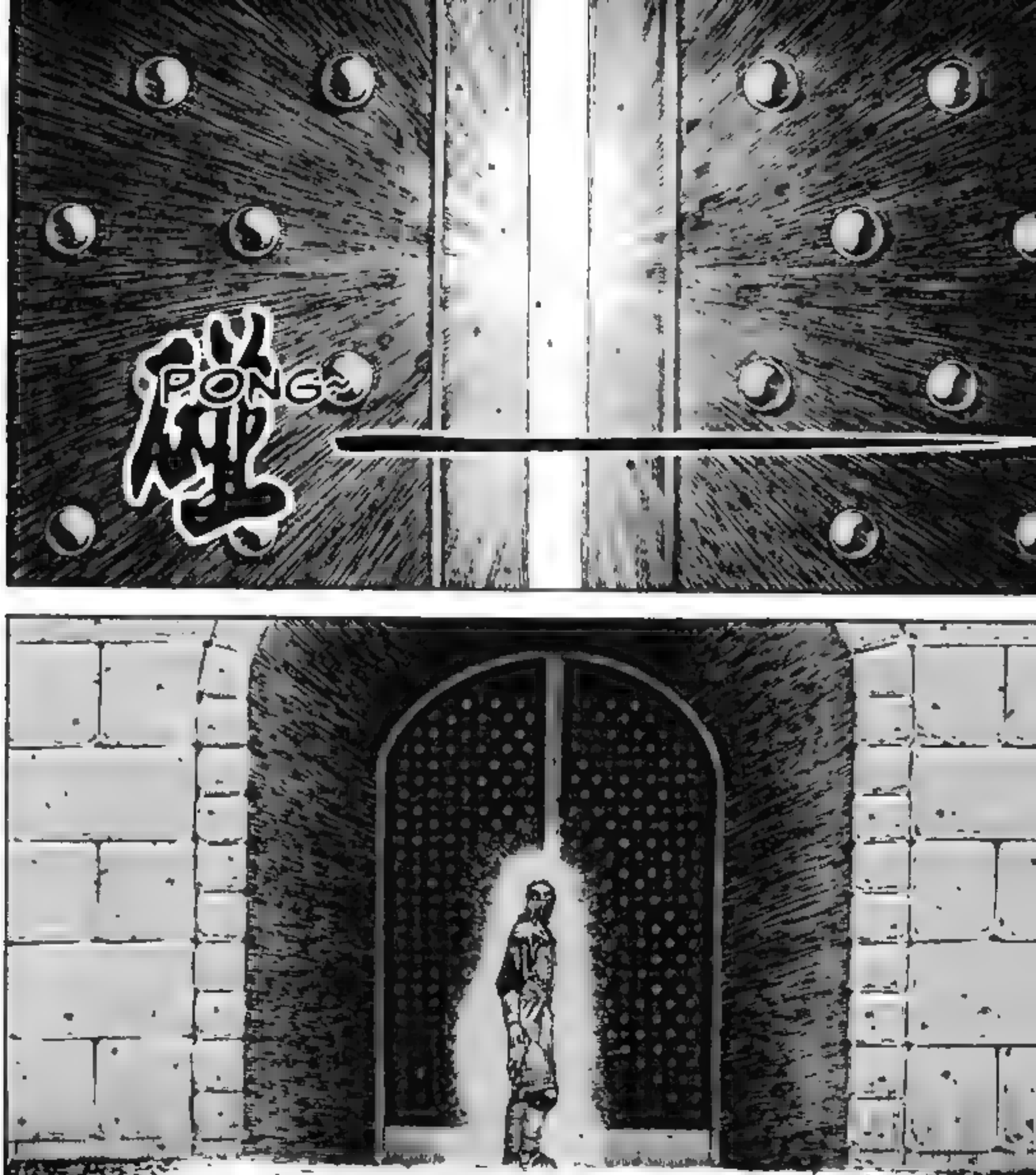
I ASSURE YOU HE IS SERIOUS.

PLEASE DON'T FLAUNT LOYALTY IN FRONT OF ME.

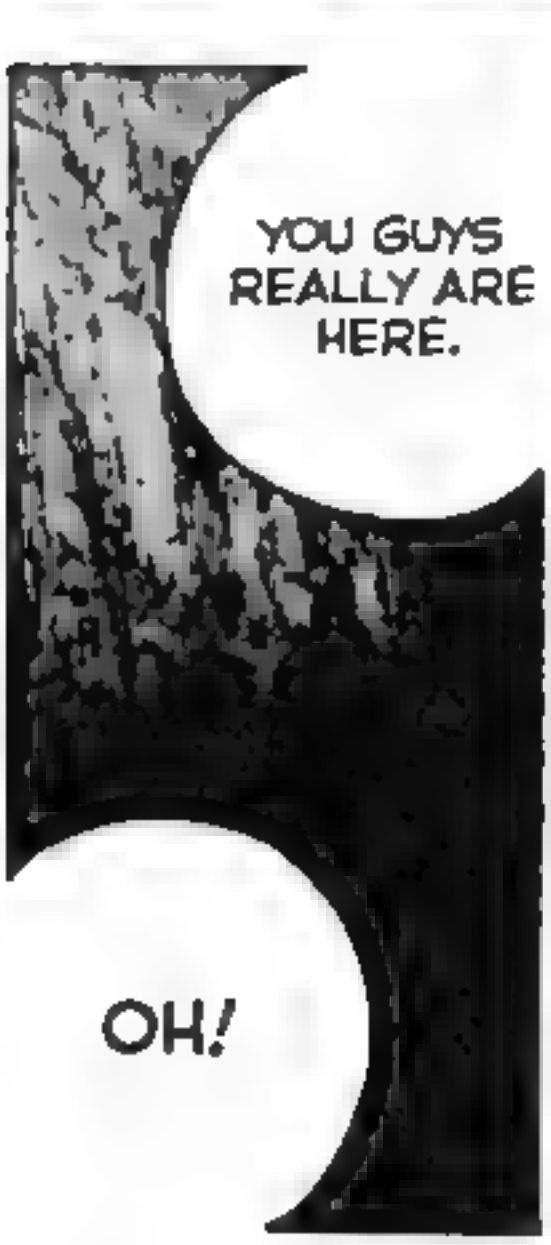
THE TERM LOYALTY HAS ITS OWN INHERENT MEANING.

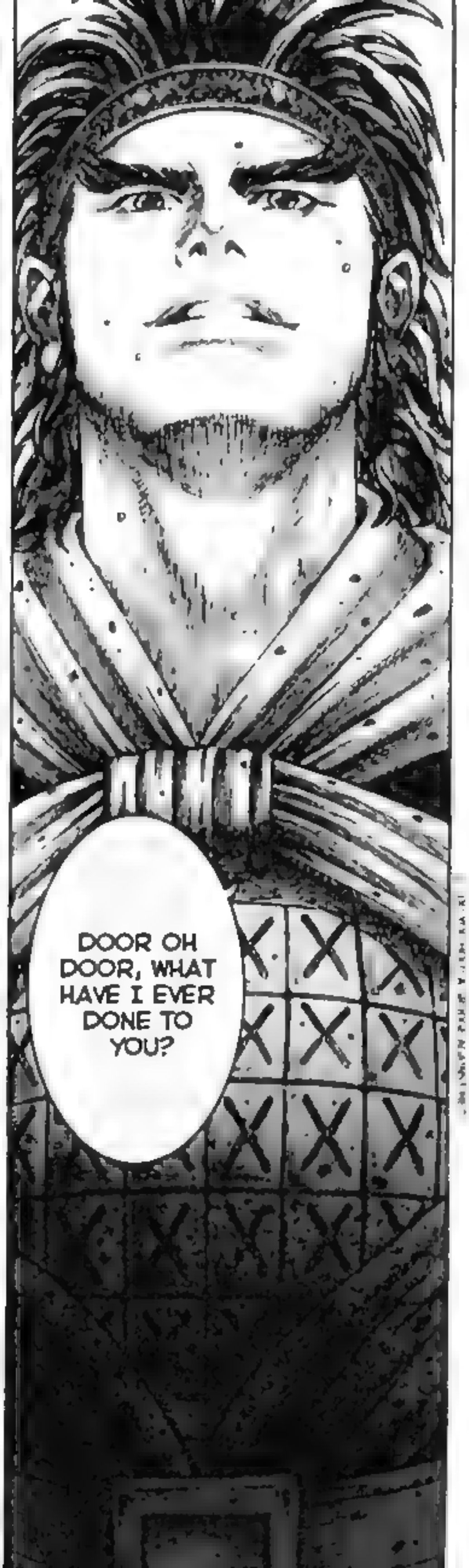
SO... WHAT IS IT?

BRING YOUR TROOPS, THEN YOU WILL UNDERSTAND.


PONG

WHO'S THERE?


YOU GUYS REALLY ARE HERE.
OH!


DOOR OH DOOR, WHAT HAVE I EVER DONE TO YOU?

LOOK! TAISHI CI IS BACK!

TAI... TAISHI CI, YOU'RE STILL ALIVE?

EXCELLENT, WE WERE JUST TRYING TO FIGURE OUT WHO SHOULD BE THE LEADER!

GOU JIAN'S DETERMIN-ATION IS COMMEND-ABLE.

WE'LL SHOW HIM WHAT'S WHAT WHEN THE TIME IS RIGHT.

WE PRETENDED TO SURRENDER TO SUN CE, BUT OUR INTENT IS TO KEEP THE MILITARY COMMAND.

YOU SPOKE OUR MINDS!

SO DO YOU ALL UNDER-STAND WHAT LOYALTY MEANS?

NO, I WAS JUST ASKING.

SINCE SUN CE IS NOW TOO BUSY APPEASING THE VARIOUS CITIES,

FINE THEN, YOU GUYS GO GATHER THE TROOPS;

WE'LL LET HEAVEN'S WILL TEACH HIM THE MEANING OF LOYALTY!

WHAT IS LOYALTY?

AND WHAT IS LINEAGE?

(HERE THE CONNOTATION OF "DOOR" IS ONE'S INITIAL ALLEGIANCE; I THINK THE POINT IS THAT TAISHI CI INITIALLY SERVES UNDER LIU YAO, BUT IS THERE REALLY A "CONTRACT" THAT KEEPS HIM FROM SERVING SOMEONE ELSE...).

FOR THOUSANDS OF YEARS, THE MIDDLE KINGDOM HAS ALWAYS BEEN CONTINUING WITH THE SAME METHOD.

CAO CAO IS BUSY APPEASING THE PEOPLE OF CHANGAN, SO HE WON'T BOTHER US FOR A FEW YEARS.

LIU BIAO IS AN INDECISIVE MAN. HE MADE A NICE GAIN WHEN HE TOOK THOSE SMALL CITIES FROM US, BUT THEN WOULD JUST STAY PUT.

WAR JUST BROKE OUT IN THE EASTERN REGION, SO THOSE BUNCH WILL BE PREOCCUPIED.

LIU BEI IS A SOFT-HEARTED MAN, AND TAKING IN LU BU WILL JUST BRING CATASTROPHE UPON HIMSELF.

SCANNER: HMM, WONDERLAND SCANNING GROUP
TRANSLATIONS: MERC, HTTP://MERCURYSBLOOD.LIVEJOURNAL.COM/2240.HTML
EDITS: KI SHODAR, HTTP://MEMBERS.OPTUSNET.COM.AU/SHODAR

CHAPTER 174 SHADOW BENEATH THE POLE

"IT'S A RAMPANT POLE ON THE GROUND IT WILL CAST A SHADOW" DICTIONARY SAYS "GET INSTANT RESULTS"

LOOKS LIKE THIS OUTCOME ISN'T TOO FAR OFF FROM WHAT WE HAD PLANNED.

THIS WORLD IS FOR THE CAPABLE MEN!

MY LORD, IT'S JUST THAT SUN CE RUINED OUR PLAN OF TAKING THE EASTERN REGION.

A YOUNG HERO IS BORN. IT SEEMS THAT SUN CE IS MIGHTIER THAN HIS FATHER.

NOT EVEN YOUR OLDER BROTHER YUAN SHAO DARES TO DISOBEY OUR HEAVEN, WHY IS MY DEAR NEPHEW DISREGARDING THE PRINCIPLE?

THE YUAN CLAN IS FAMOUS FOR ITS LOYALTY, AND SINCE IMPERIAL HAN STILL EXISTS, WE MUST DO ITS BIDDING!

(HEAVEN HERE COULD REFER TO "FATE/DESTINY" OR THE EMPEROR

WATCH ME OVERCOME THIS LAST OBSTACLE.

YOUR BROTHER IS FINALLY MAKING A MOVE.

(MASTER) CLAN ELDER, WHOSE WORLD IS THIS?

IT BELONGS TO THE LIU CLAN!

UH...

WHY IS IT THE LIU CLAN, AND NOT THE YUAN CLAN?

THE PRINCIPLE IS, AN EMPIRE IS CONQUERED.

FIRST EMPEROR OF HAN USED TO BE A MERE MARQUIS OF COMMUNE. HOW DID HE END UP AS THE EMPEROR? WHAT PRINCIPLE IS THAT?

CHINESE PEOPLE ARE TRADITIONALLY TERMED "THE DESCENDENTS OF EMPEROR HUANG."

FOR THOUSANDS OF YEARS, THE DESCENDENTS OF EMPEROR HUANG

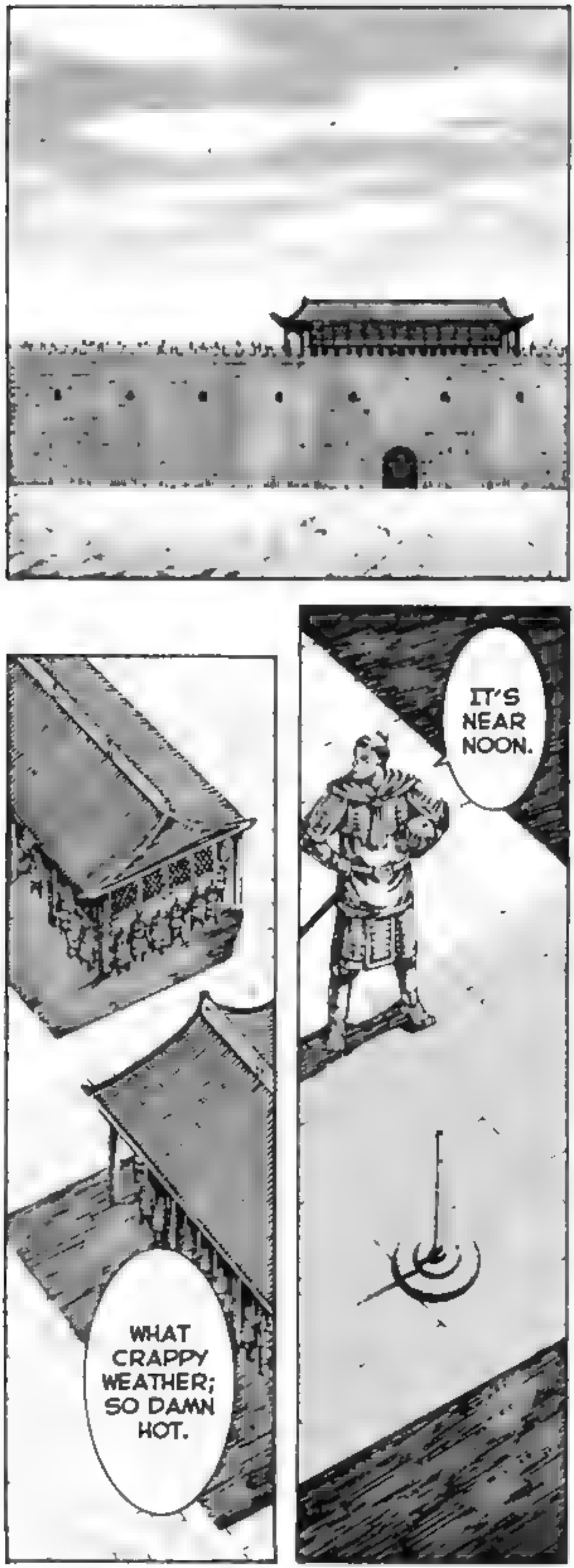
WERE NOTHING MORE THAN A BUNCH OF UNEVOLVED SLAVES.

IF THAT IS THE PRINCIPLE...

THEY TRUDGE AROUND UNDER THE SUN, LIKE GHOSTS LOOKING FOR A SHADOW OF A MASTER.

AS THE SUN RISES, YUAN SHU TOOK A FIRST BIG STEP IN HIS LIFE.

I'M WILLING TO "CONTINUE (THE TRADITION)" IN THE NAME OF HEAVEN...


WHAT CRAPPY WEATHER; SO DAMN HOT.
IT'S NEAR NOON.
AS THE NOON APPROACHES, THAT MAN TOOK A MAJOR STEP FORWARD AS WELL.

THEY HAVEN'T WITH-DRAWN.

ARE WE STILL FIGHTING IN THIS WEATHER, ADVISOR?

NO MATTER; IT'S ALMOST OVER.

PA!

SIR! ANOTHER HEAT-STROKE VICTIM.

YOU OK?

OUR FORMATION IS LONG SINCE READY, TAISHI CI, WHEN CAN WE ATTACK?

WE MUST WAIT FOR THE NINTH AND TENTH LEGIONS.

WE'VE WAITED FOR A FEW DAYS. THE MEN IN THE REAR CAMP ARE ALREADY COMPLAINING!

SIR! ARCHERS AND SIEGE TOWERS HAVEN'T ARRIVED YET!

GIVE YOUR ORDER ALREADY, TAISHI CI!

TELL THEM TO HURRY UP!

IT WASN'T EASY TO DEPLOY IN A FAVORABLE SETUP. WE MUST HOLD ON NO MATTER WHAT!

NO!

SIEGE TOWERS ARE IN THOSE TROOPS. WE WILL SUFFER HEAVY CASUALTIES IF WE ATTACK NOW!

THE SUN IS UP HIGH, BUT THE FIGHTING SPIRIT IS NOT BURNING.

IF YOU KEEP THIS UP, YOU WILL...

DON'T FORCE YOURSELF, LING TONG!

COMMANDANT LING, HAS YOUR HATRED DISSOLVED?

DON'T DISTURB MY THOUGHTS. I'M TRYING TO FEEL WHAT THOSE SOLDIERS ARE FEELING.

THEN I'LL LISTEN TO YOUR COMMAND.

KIND OF DEPRESSED, BUT MUST BARE THE HEAT A LITTLE LONGER.

HUFF!

ARE THEY HERE YET?

NO... NOT YET.

I KNOW A LOT OF THEM IN THE BACK HAVE RAN AWAY.

THOSE IN THE FRONT ARE STILL HANGING IN THERE BECAUSE THEY ARE AFRAID OF PUNISHMENT.

I WONDER...

THE CLOSER TO THE FRONT, THE MORE HELPLESS THEY ARE.

I KEEP STARING AT THIS DOOR,

SO... WHAT DO I LIVE FOR...?

WHAT DO THEY LIVE FOR?

KA~

HERE HE COMES!

SHADOW FORMS BENEATH THE POLE. WHEN IT'S NOON-TIME,

WOULD THE SHADOWS OF MASTER-LESS GHOSTS DISAPPEAR AS WELL?

EVERYBODY STAND UP!

LET'S EXACT REVENGE FOR OUR LORD!

FOLLOW ME! GIVE THEM ALL WE'VE GOT!

STAND UP!

WOAH ...

吐!

(HORSE SPIT SFX)

PONG~

AN INHARMONIC ERA

A DISAPPOINTING BEAST.

EVERYONE LIVES WITHOUT A PURPOSE.

THOUGH OCCASIONALLY SOME DO MAKE A DECISION.

LOOK... UP THERE!

IS IT A COMPROMISING SUBMISSION, OR A WISE CHOICE?

IT'S... THE NINTH AND TENTH LEGION?

IT HURTS!

SO THEY SURRENDERED!

I FEEL WEAK,

PERHAPS IT'S THE HEATSTROKE...

NO WONDER THEY WON'T COME...

I DIDN'T BRING THIS UPON YOU.

YOU WERE FATED FOR THIS DISAP-POINTMENT.

SAGES OF THE PAST, ARE YOUR TEACHINGS OF LOYALTY ALREADY OUTDATED?

FINISH HIM OFF, TAISHI CI!

WHAT ARE YOU WORTHLESS MEN WAITING FOR? OUR LORD PAID YOU...

CHA~

YOU...
YOU GUYS!

THERE ARE ALSO...

MEN WHO ARE FIGHTING FOR SURVIVAL.

GENERAL! WHY ARE YOU FORCING US TO DIE?

WAR HAS KEPT US FROM GOING HOME, AND OUR FAMILIES ARE STARVING!

GENERAL TAISHI! WE'RE ALL PEASANTS.

WE BEG OF YOU!

PLEASE! DISCHARGE US!

THE MORAL TEACHINGS SUDDENLY BECAME INSIGNIFICANT.

ON THAT DAY, I SUDDENLY FELT THE NEED TO SURVIVE.

DO YOU STILL NOT UNDERSTAND THE MEANING OF LOYALTY, TAISHI CI?

LOYALTY IS A METHOD.

A LIE FROM SCHOLARLY MEN TO ENCOURAGE FOOLS TO GIVE THEIR LIVES.

A DESPICABLE METHOD FOR THE LORDS TO PROTECT THEIR INTEREST.

IMPERIAL HAN IS ALMOST ENDING. WHY TRY TO EXTEND ITS LIFE?

MY FATHER SUN JIAN WAS A MAN OF LOYALTY, BUT IT SENT HIM TO HIS DEATH.

LOYALTY (AND RIGHTEOUSNESS) IS NOT A THING OF THE WARMONGERING LORDS.

LOYALTY (AND RIGHTEOUSNESS) IS (FROM) THE DESIRE OF ALL LIVING BEINGS.

IF "CONTINUATION" IS HEAVEN'S WILL FOR MANKIND,

IGNORANCE IS NOT A CRIME NOR HEAVEN'S WILL.

CONTINUATION MEANS THIS.

(PROBABLY MEANS EVOLUTION/REVOLUTION OF A NEW WAY OF THINKING)

THIS.

I ALSO USE TEACHINGS TO KILL TENS OF THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE. AN OPPORTUNIST.

IT'S VERY DEEP, BUT...

("THE WILLING WILL BITE THE FISHHOOK", CHINESE IDIOM. USUALLY TO DESCRIBE GULLIBLE PEOPLE)

IS MY PATH RIGHT? OR WRONG? PEOPLE WILL BELIEVE WHAT THEY WANT TO.

WITH THIS YOU CAN UNDERSTAND EVERYTHING. AND YOU WILL HAVE LIVED WITH MEANING, NO MATTER WHAT YOU DID.

HEAVEN'S WILL HAS LET ME FIND MYSELF.

AT NOON, TAISHI CI AND ALL
OF LIU YAO'S REMAINING FORCES
SURRENDERED TO SUN CE.

IS LOYALTY (AND RIGHTEOUSNESS)
THE CULPRIT OF THE ANCIENT FEUDALISM?

IS SECTARIAN BIAS THE CAUSE
OF A COUNTRY'S CRISIS?

三國志

卻是這個時代的寫照。

第二十二集
徐州風雲

火鳳燎原

第二十一集

作者／陳某

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神矢忠全忠義 亭戰雄師

何謂忠義，每人持有不同的見解。就趁孫策到神亭嶺拜祭凌操的時候，太史慈不理主公之命，擅自率兵前去圍攻。一場雨中酣鬥，二人不分勝負，卻體會了兩種不同的忠義理念。及後太史慈被捕，孫策欲收攬他於旗下。可是，對前主的忠義，太史慈寧死不屈……

陳某繼【不是人】之後，再度呈現一個縱橫幻想與史實的三國時代……

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